

A  
H I S T O R Y

OF THE

*ISLAND OF ANGLESEY.*

TO WHICH ARE ADDED,

M E M O I R S

OF

*OWEN GLENDOWR.*



K.

Rowlands (Henry) / Rev.



Gal 5 Fe

A  
H I S T O R Y  
O F T H E  
I S L A N D O F *ANGLESEY*,

From its first INVASION by the ROMANS, until finally  
acceded to the Crown of *ENGLAND*:

TOGETHER WITH

A distinct Description of the TOWNS, HARBOURS,  
VILLAGES, and other Remarkable Places in it; and of  
several ANTIQUITIES relating thereto never before made public.

SERVING AS A SUPPLEMENT TO  
*ROWLAND'S MONA ANTIQUA RESTAURATA.*

TO WHICH ARE ALSO ADDED,

M E M O I R S  
O F

*O W E N G L E N D O W R*:

Who in the Reign of *Henry IV.* claimed the Principality of *Wales*,  
as Heir to *Llewelin* last Prince thereof.

Transcribed from a MS. in the Library of *JESUS COLLEGE, OXFORD*:

To which are subjoined,

NOTES HISTORICAL AND ILLUSTRATIVE.

The Whole collected from AUTHENTIC REMAINS.

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*In Historia pura et illustri nihil est brevitae dulcius.*

Cic. de clar. Orat. 292.

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L O N D O N;  
PRINTED FOR *J. DODSLEY*, IN *PALL-MALL*.  
*M. DCC. LXXV.*







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## P R E F A C E.

**T**O the Author of the following Account of *Anglesey*, it was observed a few years back, by a Gentleman eminent for his knowledge in antiquities, and to whom the learned are justly indebted for the publication of many curious remains of the Britons; that a Supplement to Rowland's *Mona Antiqua*, containing a concise description of the ancient and present state of the Island, with the antiquities found in it subsequent to the publishing of that history, or others therein omitted, was much wanted; and especially desired by the many visitants of that insular and once sacred retreat.

However copious and judicious his discussion on the state of the Druids may be, his topography is certainly defective, as more general than local, and wanting that imagery of description, which renders all history intelligible and plain.



The Author, therefore, to obviate that inconvenience, as far as in his power, has here attempted to supply the several omissions and defects, by a distinct description of the whole Island; comprehending not only a circumstantial account of the Towns, Castles, Villages, and other Druidical remains in it; but has also given a compendious view of its more ancient state, as far as the plan of our publication, which aimed at conciseness, would conveniently admit of.

In this Narrative, all pompous and unnecessary displays, which, generally, are more apt to glut than satisfy the intelligent reader, have been carefully avoided, and a plain easy diction invariably pursued: being assured that perspicuity and brevity in true history are inseparable. Indeed the antiquities found in this ancient seat of the Druids are so various and so frequent, that to treat minutely on each particular, to investigate and illustrate their several etymologies, could scarcely be effected or comprised in less compass than a folio.

I only further add, that this treatise may serve in some measure to amuse those travellers, who make this Island their way to and from Ireland; wherefore the reader will immediately perceive, that a greater  
attention



attention is paid to the description and antiquities of *Holyhead*, the station of the packets, than the other parts of the country, though perhaps, in point of ancient remains, equally deserving.

These considerations have induced the author to suffer the following account of *Anglesey* to appear in print. How far it may answer the end proposed, becomes not him to conjecture, but is humbly submitted to the determination of the candid Public.



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A  
HISTORY  
OF  
ANGLESEY.

ANGLESEY is an Island and County of NORTH WALES, situated at the North West extremity of the principality in the Irish Sea. 'Tis separated from Carnarvonshire, on the East, by the MENAI, a narrow and serpentine Strait, and on every other side is furrounded by the St. George's or Irish channel. Mr. Rowland deduces the name MENAI from the British *Main*, i. e. narrow, and *Aw* water; but with what propriety, tho' suspected, I take not upon me to determine: the probability is plausible, and detection not easily attained; for our history furnishes no materials to convict or reprove. The narrowest part of the Strait is at or near Porthaethwy, measuring, at the passage where a ferry occasionally plies, about forty perches; which, notwithstanding the small space of sea between the two shores, exhibits, on strong east-



erly winds, a surface turbulent and boisterous, in-  
somuch that conveyance to and fro is then entirely  
obstructed. This county is supposed to have been  
once a part of the continent; but in aftertimes, by  
constant attrition, and gradual encroachment of the  
sea, to have become insular: its junction with Carnar-  
vonshire by a bridge built over the eastern extremity  
of the Menai, Paulus Jovius affirms: and indeed at  
this time, some scattered remains thereof are, at low  
water, evincibly seen from Priest-Holme Island, ex-  
tending in a direct line to the Promontory of Pen-  
mon; but more conspicuous is their appearance, at  
the vernal equinox, when the tide is in its greatest  
ebb. The great breadth here now seems to deny the  
practicableness of such erection; for it would measure,  
I believe, from Penmon to the opposite shore, about  
four miles, and the depth of it on the Anglesey coast  
is not inconsiderable: however, when we consider the  
incessant ravages of the sea, and the changes conse-  
quent thereon, we may reasonably suppose that land  
then existed, and reached from this small island of  
Priest-Holme, over the now Lavan sands, to the  
dreadful steep of Penmaen Maur: which was, evi-  
dently, the work of time, effectuated by the violence  
of the sea washing its oozy banks.

THE



## OF ANGLESEY.

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THE Britons called this Island Môn, as the Welch imagine from Bôn, which signifies, in their tongue, *end* or *extremity*. But the Romans, on their invasion of it, to make it sound more agreeable to the Latin idiom, added to it the letter *a*, and pronounced it *Mona*. This Latin name caused great dispute among former historians: even writers, who are famed in annals of antiquity, have differed in opinion concerning its location. Polydore, a writer to whom we give but little credit, would have us believe *Mona* to have been the Isle of *Man*, which island Pliny calls *Menabia*, Orosius and Beda *Menavia*, and by Gildas it is called *Eubonia*: these give the name of *Mona* to that, which at this day is called Anglesey; amongst whom is the learned and indefatigable Leland: and Sylvester Giraldus, in his treatise intitled *Itinerarium Cambriæ*, says, that *Carnarvon* is so called, as being a town situated over against *Môn*. Notwithstanding also that Cæsar's account of *Mona* has hurried many into errors, it is now universally agreed, that this Isle of Anglesey is the *Mona*, the principal seat of the Druids, first conquered by a Roman General, named Suetonius Paulinus, in the reign of Nero. (A. D. 59.)

WHEN this Isle was invaded by the Saxons, they called it *Money*, *Ey* in their tongue signifying an Island; but since its subjection to the English, it has



been called *Anglesey*, or *Anglesea*, that is the Englishmen's Island.

THE greatest length of the Island is from *Penmon* in the East to *Holyhead* in the West, which measures thirty miles; and its greatest breadth, measuring from *Llan Ælian* in the North to *Llanddwyn* in the South, is twenty-six miles. Its form is somewhat irregular, as having a great number of bays and creeks, which come a great way into the country, of which we shall give some account in their proper places.

THE original division of this county was into three Cantreds, or Hundreds, namely, *Cantref-Aberfraw*, *Cantref-Cemais*, *Cantref Rhosfair* or *Newburgh*. On the expiration of the British government, these, for the better regulation of public affairs, were subdivided into six Comots, which we call, in the Welch tongue, *Cwmwd*. In this subdivision, *Cantref Aberfraw* was assigned to Comot *Llivon*, and Comot *Malltraeth*; *Cantref Cemais* to the Comots of *Talebolion*, and *Twrkelin*; and *Cantref Rhosfair*, or *Newburgh*, to the Comots of *Tindaithwy* and *Menai*; which division is observed at this day.

WHEN the Druids in this Isle were invested with absolute power, many deserters out of the neighbouring counties fled here for refuge: for it was the custom of this order of religion to protect almost all, who



who came unto them, against the punishment to which the law of their own country would subject them. Anglesey, in consequence of this well-judged policy, and from a secure insular situation, soon became populous and great; and accordingly was adjudged, when Amarawd was Prince of North Wales, (A. D. 877.) to be the fittest place for the residence of those princes; who, from that period, continued to live in it, at *Aberfraw*, until the death of Lleweline. (A. D. 1282.) Also, in the division of counties into parishes, which happened about A. D. 636, when Honorius was Bishop of Canterbury, the populousness of this county occasioned, we may suppose, a greater number of parishes to be assigned to it, than to the adjacent counties of *Carnarvonshire* and *Denbighshire*, both which claim superiority as to extent. Here are seventy-four parishes, and four principal market towns; namely, *Beaumaris*, *Holyhead*, *Aberfraw*, and *Llannerchmeadd*, which last place has a market on Wednesday, that is inferior to none, I know of, in Wales. *Giraldus*, in his *Itinerarium Cambriæ*, says, that, in his time, the Island of *Mona* contained three hundred and sixty-three villages: what the historian comprehended under the term village, has not been absolutely determined; however it is supposed, as Lambard says, to have been an appellation given then to a farm, or tything, rather than  
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to a town as we now apply it to. In this supposition we readily acquiesce, and conclude, from the appearance of things here in their present state, that the Island could never boast of such a number of towns; at least not when Giraldus visited it, which happened sometime in the reign of Hen. II. In another place speaking of this Island, he says, that however unpleasant the country might appear to strangers, from its dry and rocky aspect, bearing a near resemblance to Pebidiog, a part of Cardiganshire near the see of St. David; yet the soil in fertility, he adds, surpassed, in those days, all Wales, producing such abundant crops of corn, that the Welch proverbially said of it, *Môn Mam Gumry*, which words mean, *Môn* the nursery of Wales: for, when the other counties of the principality suffered by a dry summer, this alone felt not the effects of it.

THE soil of *Anglesey* may be distinguished into three sorts, the sandy soil, the black, and the stiff reddish soil. The lands on the sea coast, more especially to the western side of the Island, where the ground inclines to a plain, are of a sandy nature. The low grounds are chiefly covered with the black soil, which, in most places, yields the inhabitants good brick turf, the common fuel of the lower class



of people. In digging for this kind of turf, they frequently meet with large bodies of trees preserved entire, though several feet under ground, but now and then are found within a foot of the surface: how preserved so long in this state of humidity, is a problem hitherto unresolved, being supposed to have been cut down by the Romans when they invaded the Isle, and brought it to subjection under their leader Suetonius: they, however it happened, are become hard and black as ebony; the carpenters of the country split them into laths, being found very durable, and best suited for such purposes. But the greatest part of our soil, especially about the middle of the county, is a reddish earth approaching the nature of clay; which, by being manured with sand to relax it of its tense quality, produces plentiful crops of barley, rye, and oats; so much, that, in the year 1770, upwards of 90,000 bushels of grain of different sorts were exported from its several harbours, and the quantity is yearly increasing from the great improvements in husbandry here daily carrying on. Their chief manure is lime, soapers waste, and sand, which is carried on horseback for that purpose all over the country. Anglesey yields honey, wax, tallow, hides, woollen, and coarse linen cloth in abundance; but their chief trade consists in corn and cattle: and since the failure  
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of the herring fishery, with which fish these coasts were abundantly supplied, the potatoe has been much planted, and has made a principal part of the food of the inhabitants. To their living chiefly on this esculent and not on salted herrings, as heretofore, does the learned Mr. Panton attribute the great increase of people in this Isle.

MORE than a century past, it was computed that *Anglesey* sent, then, yearly, to the English markets upwards of 3000 head of cattle; and at this time, when agriculture is practised with the greatest success, we may reasonably conclude the isle sends annually from 12,000, to 15,000, as well as a great number of sheep and hogs. After all the fairs are over, it is thought that their remaining stock of cattle can amount to no less than 30,000. These feed upon short grass, which renders their beef solid and sweet. The inhabitants, in this plenty, eat but little flesh-meat; in lieu thereof, the poor, and the greater number of the opulent farmers, content themselves with cheese and butter; indeed preferring these simple but wholesome diets to the most costly viands. The other natural productions of the place, are butter, cheese, as already observed, bacon, tame and wild fowls in the greatest plenty, also sea fish, as cod, salmon, herring, thornback, ling, ray, haddock, plaice, whiting, sea-tench, turbot,



turbot, soles, and flounders; likewise, oysters, crabs, lobsters, shrimps, prawns, with muscles and cockles in abundance. This place being of a small extent, and surrounded on all sides by the sea, gives rise to no great rivers: the principal are, *Alau*, *Braint*, *Cefni* and *Dulas*. The first is so called probably from white water lillies, which grow about it, and are called in the Welch tongue *Alau*: the *Braint* is so named, as I suppose, from *Bran*, a Crow, on account of its swiftness: the *Cefni* or *Gefni*, as taking its first course in the parish of *Llangefni*: *Dulas*, from the colour of the sea: This word, as Mr. Baxter observes, signifies, in the British tongue, a colour *ex nigro ad cæruleum accedens*.

THE inhabitants are for the most part of middle stature, strong and active; and can well bear cold and wet. They are, in general, healthy and long-lived; 80 or 90 years being a period to which they frequently arrive. The number of the inhabitants was computed about the middle of last century to be 12,000, and the number of houses about 1840: but, since that period, population having made such wide advances, as appears by our register books, their number must be exceedingly increased.—The air of Anglesey is keen, but seldom tainted with infectious vapours, as being surrounded on all sides by the sea, and the island no more than 90 miles in circumference: however, its air must needs partake of the sea salts



in a great degree; for it has been remarked, that it corroded iron exposed to the weather in a very short time. This acrimonious quality renders it very unfavourable to scorbutic habits, and also very prejudicial to trees and shrubs; and near the shores, especially to the north and west, a tree seldom grows above its shelter. Our winters are not so severe as in other parts of Wales; snow seldom lasts long. Of birds found in Anglesey, some are perennial, others migratory: Among the first we may reckon the crow, in Welch called brândyfin; also the raven or cigfran, and hawks, of which we have several sorts. The white and long-eared owls, which the Welch called dylluan gorniog, dylluan wen, are numerous: the rook, or ydfran, the jackdaw, or cogfrân, are also very common. Among the birds of passage, the wryneck appears early in the spring; the inhabitants call this bird gwâs y gôg, that is, the cuckoo's attendant: the quail is seen in summer, but always migrates in October: fieldfares visit the isle about Michaelmas in great flocks, and leave it in the beginning of March: the red-wing, or foccen yr eira, appears with us about Michaelmas in great numbers; as does likewise the missel-bird, called in the Welch tongue pen y llwyn, i. e. master of the bush: the martin appears early in the spring, but leaves us about the latter end of September: woodcocks, or cuffylogs, leave this country the beginning of March:



the land rail, or rhygen yr ud, quits us before winter, they appear about the latter end of May, and are supposed to pass over from Ireland, where they abound: puffins appear in Priestholme island in great flocks; they resort thither in April and leave it in September: the stone chatterer, or chlocder y cerrig, is often seen on gorfy grounds; and the bunting, or brâs y druttan, is frequently seen in summer: so is the black cap, or pendyr brwyn; this leaves us before winter: in summer the win-chat, or chlocder yr eithen. The perennial birds, which are seen on the sea coast around the island, are too numerous to be taken notice of here: wherefore, leaving this part of its history, I now proceed to describe briefly the ancient state of the island, with several actions or events that happened in it prior to its accession to the crown of England.

“ ANGLESEY is, as Mr. Rowlands observes, that celebrated *Mona*, anciently the principal seat of the Druids, a sect of priests renowned for their learning, and close adherence to the offices of their several functions. They were well versed in geometry, astronomy, natural philosophy, and geography: they were also supreme judges in all causes, ecclesiastic and civil, from whose determination there lay no appeal; and whoever refused to comply with their edicts was reckoned impious and forthwith excommunicated. Once a year, they with their chief, an Arch-Druid, used



to assemble at a place called *Bryn-gwin*, or Supreme Court, near *Tre'r Druw*, in the South West part of the country, to receive applications from all parts, and to hear causes. The stones found at this time, at *Bryn-gwin*, are twelve in number, each of them twelve feet high, and about eight broad: they are set erect, and, taken collectively, do very much resemble the shoe of a horse. Various have been the conjectures concerning this monument of antiquity. Borlase supposed it to have been a theatre, erected by the Druids for the exhibition of plays, or the like, as it appears to have had seats and benches in the circular parts of it to accommodate the spectators. Others have imagined that it was intended for the Druids temple; a description of which, as admirably painted by Mr. Mason, in his *Caractacus*, will not be here amiss.

———— “ Behold yon oak,  
 How stern he frowns, and with his broad brown arms  
 Chills the pale plain beneath him! Mark yon altar,  
 The dark stream brawling round its rugged base,  
 These cliffs, these yawning caverns, this wide circus,  
 Skirted with unhewn stones.————  
 These mighty piles of magic planted rock,  
 Thus ranged in mystic order: mark the place,  
 Where, but at times of holiest festival,

The



The Druid leads his train. There dwells the feer  
In yonder fhaggy cave, on which the moon  
Now fheds a fide-long gleam. His brotherhood  
Poffefs the neighbouring cliffs.——  
Mine eye defcries a diftant range of caves  
Delved in the ridges of the craggy fteep:  
And this way ftill another. On the left  
Refide the fages skilled in nature's lore:  
The changeful universe, its numbers, powers,  
Studios they meafure, fave when meditation  
Gives place to holy rites: then in the grove  
Each hath his rank and function. Yonder grots  
Are tenanted by bards, who mighty thence  
Defcend, with harps that glitter to the moon,  
Hymning immortal ftrains."

ANTIQUARIES of the prefent age do not coincide in  
thele conjectures concerning Bryn-gwin; but, from  
its name, form, and fituation, are led to fuppofe that  
here the Druids kept their general Synod; or, per-  
haps with more probability, their fupreme court of  
Judicature, to confult and refolve on meafures con-  
ducive to the welfare and tranquillity of the Ifland:  
for they were abfolute arbiters in almoft all affairs, as  
well civil as ecclefiaftic. To fupport any one of thefe  
hypotheles is no eafy matter; and to whom to adjudge  
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the palm of superiority, it becomes not me to determine; though, from its Welch name, I am inclined to favour the latter supposition: for it is affirmed by many eminent authors, that this religious sect of priests did with their Arch-Druid, when in the zenith of their power, assemble at a fixed time and place, once in the year, to hear causes and to determine all disputes and controversies, from whose tribunal there was no appeal. Where their decisive court of equity was held, has never with any certainty been determined; but, from many concurring circumstances, Mr. Rowlands supposed it to have been kept at this place.

THE Druids committed none of their opinions to writing, but transmitted them to posterity by oral tradition, obliging their scholars to get them by heart: and for the better retention of them in the memory, they employed their bards, who were very numerous, to turn them into verse, which the natives call *Englyn Milur*; of which the following is a specimen.

\* “ An Lavar koth yu lavar guir,  
 Bidh dwrn rhe ver, dan davaz rhehîr,  
 Mez dîn heb davaz a gallaz idîr.”

\* Lloyd's *Archæologia Britannica*.

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What is said of old will always stand,  
Too long a tongue, too short a hand;  
But he that had no tongue lost his land.

NOTWITHSTANDING the distant period since the cessation of this religious order, many of their verses are still known; not that they are recorded in any history, but merely from a habitude and propensity that the natives have to poetry. Several attempts have been made by eminent men to trace the origin, and discover the principles of the Druids, but hitherto with little success: all agree that they held the immortality and transmigration of the Soul. They acknowledged one supreme Deity named *Teuth*, from whence probably came the Welch word *Duw*, i. e. GOD.

IN the reign of Nero Suetonius Paulinus, (A. D. 59.) a Roman general made an attempt to take this Island; a country, as \*Tacitus says, very populous, and a receptacle of deserters. The general, to facilitate this undertaking, caused flat-bottomed vessels to be built, and with these he safely conducted his army over the *Menai*, which strait was then but shallow and dangerous. By this expedient being all landed, they were presently surrounded by the natives, who were very numerous and well armed: even their women, preferring

\* Tacitus, Ann. 14. C. 30.

death



death to the shackles of slavery, voluntarily exposed themselves to the fury of the enemy, running about as if distracted, with their hair dishevelled, carrying torches in their hands, and clad in mournful habits. At a little distance from the army stood the Druids, lifting their hands up to heaven, imploring the protection of their Gods against these lawless invaders of their rights and liberties. At first the Roman soldiers were so amazed at the novelty of the fight, that they made little or no resistance; but at length, taking courage by the exhortation of their general, they resumed their former bravery, advanced their ensigns, and, from their greater number and superior skill in arms, soon overpowered their enemies. The Isle being thus conquered, a garrison was planted in it: the Roman general, the better to secure his victory, caused all the groves to be cut down which the Druids usually consecrated to their cruel superstitions; for they accounted it lawful and very expedient to sacrifice captives taken in battle. But while these things were in agitation, Paulinus, by a sudden revolt of the whole province, was recalled from accomplishing his enterprise. Soon after, Julius Agricola invaded the island, who, being unprovided with ships to convey his army over the channel, and determined upon a descent, without delay commanded such of his auxiliaries to whom



whom the strait was well known, to swim over and guide themselves with their horses and arms. The natives, who watched the sea, expecting a regular fleet, seeing themselves so suddenly beset by their enemies, and supposing nothing difficult to men of such resolution, immediately treated for peace, and surrendered the island.

FROM this period our histories make mention of nothing remarkable here occurring, until the time of William Rufus; when Hugh Earl of Chester, called by the Welch Hugh *Vrás*, and Hugh Earl of Shrewsbury, whom they called Hugh *Goch*, being solicited by certain Lords of the country to suppress the power of Griffith ap Conan, then Prince of North Wales, with whom they were at enmity, entered the isle with a numerous army, and, assisted by these nobles, did exceedingly harass and molest the country, killing or maiming with great cruelty all who opposed them: some had their hands and feet cut off; others they castrated, and deprived of sight. Among the unhappy, who were thus inhumanly mutilated, was an old priest called Kenred, whom they dragged from the altar, and put out one of his eyes; to add to his misery, they cut off his tongue and privy members, which, as some of our Welch histories say, were after three days restored perfect. While these invaders were exercising  
D their



their cruelty, it happened, not unluckily, that Magnus King of the Norwegians, the son of Olanus, the son of Harfeger, having made a conquest of the isle of *Man*, directed his fleet to *Anglesey*, and when he would have landed, Hugh Earl of Salop with a great army opposed him. In the engagement the Earl fell, being shot by an arrow which Magnus aimed at him from the prow of his ship: the king seeing him fall, thus insolently said in the Danish tongue, *leit loupe*, that is, *sine salire*, let him dance: he died the seventh day after he had used that cruelty towards Kenred. This country suffered much from the encroachments of the Norwegians, the Irish, and the Anglo-Saxons, who successively plundered it, laying waste every thing before them. King Edward I. soon after his accession to the throne, sent an army by sea to Anglesey, which surrendered to him without any great opposition. Having, as supposed, secured his conquest, he afterwards designed to march his army to other counties of the principality, and to conduct them over the *Menai* to Carnarvonshire: a bridge made of boats, covered with planks, was caused to be built at a place now called *Moel y Don*, in the parish of *Llanidan*. William Latimer with an army of experienced foldiers, and Sir Lucas Thany, who commanded the Gasgoins and Spa-

Walsing. p. 50. T. Wikes, p. 258.

niards,



niards, a great number of whom then served the King, having passed over to the continent, could not discover any sign whereby they might judge of the dispositions of the natives; for they had deserted their habitations, and taken shelter in the mountains. But when the tide appeared, and the sea had flowed beyond the bridge, the army was soon freed from their state of suspension; for the Welch came down from the mountains, and so surprized the English, that they killed, or drowned, almost their whole number: but Latimer, seeing himself in imminent danger, swam his horse to the bridge, and by this expedient luckily reached the island. In this action the English lost several worthy soldiers: among the slain were Sir Lucas Thany, Robert Clifford, Sir Walter Lyndsey, two brothers of Robert Burnel, then Bishop of Bath, with many others; in all, to the number of thirteen Knights, seventeen young gentlemen, and two hundred common soldiers.

THIS isle has suffered many revolutions, of which we have no distinct accounts; for the affairs of the island were exceedingly perplexed, and continually fluctuating, during the intermediate space from its first reduction under the Roman power until finally subdued by the English, who happily acceded it to their dominions. On the decline of the Roman government in Britain, many of the Irish encroached upon us, and



settled here, as is evident from certain hillocks of earth by them raised and entrenched about: they are seen in many places, and are now called by the natives *Cwtia Gwyddelod*\*, i. e. the Irishmen's cottages. This country also, with the rest of the Principality, was oppressed frequently by the English (more especially under the reigns of Henry II. and III. until Edward the First, who, having defeated Lleweline last Prince of Wales, effectually subdued it, annexing it to his crown. At this period the laws of England were here established, and all the Welch submitted to the victor. To render his conquest lasting, and gain the affections of his newly-acquired subjects, who were desirous to have for their Prince one born amongst them, he sent his Queen, then pregnant, to the castle of Carnarvon, where she was delivered of a Prince, on April 25, 1284†. The Welch, ever since their change of government, have lived as loyal and faithful subjects, active in the interest of their king, and zealous without superstition in the worship of the true God.

HAVING now given a cursory view of the island in general, in its ancient and present state, we here proceed with more minuteness to describe its towns, cas-

\* The most remarkable are in a wood near Llygwy, the property of Lord Boston.

† M. West, p. 411. T. Wikes, 111.



ties, villages and harbours, with their several antiquities, whether recorded in history, or handed down to us by tradition.

BEAUMARIS is the principal town in *Anglesey*; so named from a French word which signifies a beautiful morass, being situated in a moorish spot on the Western bank of the strait *Menai*; and is distant 241 miles North West of London, and 27 East of Holyhead; longitude 13, 15; latitude 53, 20. The town is neat, regular, and well built, having two good streets, with many lanes, one handsome church, and a spacious county-hall, where the grand assizes are usually held. The corporation is governed by a mayor, recorder, two bailiffs, and twenty-one common-council-men, a town clerk, and two serjeants at mace; in whom only are vested the election and return of the Borough Member for this county. The first return was made ann. 33 Hen. VIII. King Edward I. to intimidate the natives, and keep them in subjection, built a strong castle here; he also fortified the town with a wall, almost every part of which, excepting that towards the sea, is in ruins; and in many places there remain no vestiges whereby we may judge of its ancient position. The castle is seated in a low meadow adjoining the sea and town, and is more entire than many of the Welch castles. Sir Hugh Williams, Baronet, is the present constable



of it, and is representative of the borough in parliament. From the summit of the castle, Carnarvonshire exhibits a most beautiful landscape, diversified with hills and dales, lawns and woods; and with an indifferent glass, we discern coaches and travellers both ascending and descending *Penmain Mawr*, a hill dreadful, and known to all who travel between England and Ireland by the way of *Holyhead*, on account of its height and declivity; but of late years, through the aid of Government, and the erecting of turnpikes, the road over it is rendered the best, I may say, in Wales, and at present by no means dangerous. At the primary establishment of the said castle, the constable, or chief officer, had 40l. yearly for his salary; and the captain of the town 12l. 3s. 4d. There were also twenty-four soldiers appointed to guard the same, each man being allowed 4d. a day, amounting every year in the whole to 146l. Adjoining *Porth-Mawr*, or the South-gate of the town, stood the porter's lodge, which above a century ago was converted to a bridewell. He was paid annually the sum of 9l. 2s. 6d.

A. D. 1603, David Hughes, a native of this place, bequeathed certain tenements in the island for the endowment of a free grammar school, which was forthwith established, agreeably to the will of the testator. The school is neat, lofty, and spacious, with small,



but suitable apartments for the two masters, who, on a vacancy, are chosen by feoffees, who meet once every year, when a sermon is preached by either of the masters, in memory of the worthy benefactor. Bishop Rowlands also left lands in the island to *Jesus College, Oxford*, for the maintenance of one fellow and scholar to be chosen from this school.—For the management of his Majesty's revenues in this port, are appointed a collector, customcr, and comptroller, who is also the collector of the salt duties; also a surveyor, or searcher, and six boatmen. The custom-house is seated in the South end of the town, and rented by Government of Bodychen Sparrow, Esq; the present comptroller, James Brisco, Esq; The harbour is here excellently situated, and was formerly a place of great trade, and might still be so, had the inhabitants a turn for commerce; but now agriculture employs their chief attention.—Near to *Beaumaris* is *Baron-hill*, the seat of the Hon. James Lord Viscount *Bulkeley* of *Cashall*, of the county of *Tipperary*, in the Kingdom of *Ireland*: 'tis delightfully seated on an easy ascent above the *Menai*, commanding an agreeable and extensive view of almost every variety of nature. About a mile north of *Beaumaris*, is that memorable spot *Llanvaes*, where, in the year 819, a desperate and bloody battle was fought between the Saxons and the Welch, and is called in  
our



our histories, from the place where the engagement happened, the battle of *Llanvaes*. In this action were slain the King of *Denmark*'s son, Lord *Clifford*,\* with many Barons and Knights. Here was a house of Franciscan or Minor Friars, founded by *Lleweline ap Iorwerth*, Prince of *North Wales*, about the year 1240, and was dedicated to St. *Frances*. *Howel*, then Bishop of *Bangor*, consecrated this monastery over the grave of *Joane* wife of *Lleweline*, and daughter of King John, whose pleasure it was to be here interred. On the road between *Beaumaris* and *Llanvaes* is a large stone trough, close by the sea, which is supposed by modern antiquaries, to have been the coffin of the said *Joane*, King John's daughter. When this monastery was ready to fall to ruins, King *Henry V.* relieved it, who provided that there should be always in it eight Friars. *Speed* by some mistake calls the Friars at *Llanvaes* Dominicans, and appropriates the Franciscans to *Beaumaris*.

IN the East part of Anglesey is situated *Penmon*, or *Glanach*, memorable for having a Priory of Black Canons of the order of St. *Augustine*, and dedicated to St. *Mary*: it was founded by *Gwynedd*, king of the Britons, about A. D. 540, and afterwards liberally endowed by *Lleweline ap Iorwerth*. It was valued

\* Rymer, vol. iv. part 2. p. 83.



26 Hen. VIII. at 47l. 15s. 3d. and given 6th *Eliz.* to *John Moore*: the present possessor is Lord Viscount *Bulkeley*. In this neighbourhood are many quarries of excellent mill-stones of the grit kind, and also lime-stones, which are carried in great quantities to all the adjacent counties. Here is a good harbour, and plenty of oysters, remarkably large: the poor find constant employ in the dredge, and in pickling the fish for foreign consumption. Here, and in several other parts of the island, is a plant called by the Welch *Gwymmon*, but by the English *Tang*, growing on the sea rocks; this they cut, dry, and calcine into a kind of salt, called kelp, an ingredient used in making glass, and in alum works. About thirty furlongs Eastward of *Penmon*, is a small circular island, which the English call *Priestholme*, and the Welch *Siriol*, from one *Siriolus*, as Leland says, a hermit who lived here A. D. 368. Puffins resort thither about April in great flocks, leaving it in August or the beginning of September: this place is much frequented in summer, as having great plenty of sea-fowls and rabbits, objects always agreeable to the sportsman.

HOLYHEAD is the next town most worthy of notice, as being the stationed place of the packet boats that carry the mails between the two kingdoms, viz. England and Ireland. This town is situated on the ex-

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tremity



tremity of an island that is joined to the North West part of *Anglesey* by a bridge of one arch, called *Pont y Rhydpont*, and lies partly in the Hundred of *Talebolion*, and partly in that of *Llivon*; it is 27 miles West of *Beaumaris*, lon. 12, 55, lat. 53, 20. The town is but small, and the houses are scattered: it consists chiefly of inns for the accommodation of travellers; they are built of rough stone and covered with slates. The packet boats are fix in number, contracted for by Government of Mr. Thomas Blair, an Irish merchant, who has the sole benefit arising from the passage of travellers: the price of a bed in any of the cabbins is half a guinea; and, for a place in the hold, as upon deck, without a bed, half a crown. One of these packets sails for Dublin every day but Sunday, and another returns, wind and weather permitting. The harbour is very convenient for the Northern trade, when taken short by contrary winds; but it is only one of the rough draughts of nature, having never received any improvement, which might with little expence be effected: It is no good lying place for large shipping on westerly winds: if it was properly repaired, and warehouses built, it would be very convenient for the Irish to import such of their goods as pay English duty, it being but a few hours sail from *Dublin*. This place was called *Holyhead*, I suppose, from the great  
number



number of chapels, or places of religious worship that were in it; but its most ancient name that I know of was *Llan-y Gwyddyl*: here the word *Llan* probably signifies the Irishmen's beach or shore, and not church, as generally accepted, for the shore is called in this parish, and no where else that I know of in *Wales*, *Llan y Môr*, instead of *Glan y Môr*: and in support of this supposition, our histories make frequent mention of the Irish rovers landing here, and of their incursions into several parts of the island of Mona, or Anglesey, and also raising here some rude fortifications to protect their shipping; but its most usual name is *Caer Kebi*, or *Kibi*, or, as we call it at present, *Caer Gybi*, i. e. *Kebii castrum*; so called from *Kebius* or *Kybi*, the son of Solomon Duke of *Cornwall*, who was consecrated Bishop by Hilary of *Poitiers* about the year 364. Soon after his consecration, he came and settled in this part of Mona, called to this day after his name *Caer Gubi*. However, this account of Kebius is erroneous, if we give any credit to the Genealogy of our British Saints, which says that Selyt, or Solomon, the father of Kybi, was the son of Geraint, the son of Erbin, the son of Constantine Duke of *Cornwall*, nephew and successor to king Arthur, and was cotemporary with Gildas, who flourished about 550. What occasioned the mistake, if there be one, might be this:

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that



that our Ælian, surnamed Ganniad, or the bright, called in Latin Hiliarius, is very often confounded with Hilary of *Poitiers*. This Ælian, or British Hilary, was a person remarkable for his sanctity, employing his whole time in devotion and acts of charity; and his miracles were so cried up by the Romish priests, that his shrine at *Llan-Ælian*, in this county, is still resorted to, and thought by the vulgar to perform surprising cures. He was a cotemporary of our *Kybi*, and, if we believe tradition, they used to meet at a place called *Llandyfrydog*, about three miles South of *Llan-Ælian*, and 14 East of *Holyhead*, to confer about, and settle, abstruse points in religion; but he was no Bishop, as far as I can find. An ancient British poet gives us a concise account of *Kybi* and his kindred, in the following stanzas.

“ Teulu *Kybi* Sancte,

“ Da oedd *Kybi* ai ddeuddei;  
 Morwyr David a mwroc haeldec.  
 Ceneu Cyngar ar garrec.  
 Cynvarwy adwardy deg.  
 Padern ag Ederm Maeloc Gwndec;  
 Cyph Capho vab un Oveg;  
 Kibio Peulan angwaneg,  
 Trwy awr dda Cyw'r tri ar ddeg.”



“ Y Saith Gefnder Saint.”

“ Dewi a Chybi achubant beunydd,  
Dwyn Beuno yn warant :  
Dyniad Cynvarch a barchant  
A Daniel a Seiriol Sant.  
Llyn âr Saith earvaith arver gan vendwy ;  
Gwynvidie bob amfer ;  
A vûn y maen graen grunder,  
Ar Saith a Weles y Sêr.”

To return to Holyhead.—Mr. Baxter in his *Glossary* is not satisfied with this etymology of its name, but calls it *Corguba*, from the monk of *Ravenna* in *Corfula*; and he deduces *Caer Gybi* from *Caer Coib*, i. e. “ *Munimentum cohortis de Latino, enim copiæ Ibernorum Coib pro turma vel cohorte est; sunt etiam in arce montis veterum castrorum vestigia.*” Which of these is the true one, it becomes not me to determine, but it is left to be decided by the ingenious antiquary.

HOLYHEAD had formerly a College in it, founded by *Maelgwyn Gwynedd*, King of *North Wales*, who is called by *Gildas Maglownus*; for an ancient manuscript chronicle has these words: “ *Maelgwyn Gwynedd a adeil-adodd Glaswrddy Bangor, a Glaswrddy Pemon, a Glaswrddy Caer Gybi.*” *Maelgwyn Gwynedd* built the college of *Bangor*; the college of *Penmon*,  
and



and the college of *Holyhead*. The college consisted of a Penclas, or Pencolas, i. e. Præfectus collegii, who was one of the three spiritual Lords of *Anglesey* in the time of the Welch Princes; the other two, being the Arch-Deacon of the county, and the Prior of *Penmon*: it had also a small number of members, but of what denomination, I have no further knowledge than what is contained in the following letter from Mr. Rowlands to Dr. Tanner, in answer to some queries relative to this place. “ I could never, says he, hear of any chartules of this church remaining in private hands, unless there be in *Jesus College, Oxford*, to which this church now belongs. Indeed the public seal of this convent I had once in my possession, and is at present in the College: it was of hard metal, taken out of a turbery near *Holyhead*, and had these words about it in ancient letters; *Sigillum Rectoris et Capituli Ecclesiæ de Caer Kibi*. By which we see, the chief was stiled Rector, but in the Welch tongue, Penclas, or Pencolas, viz. the Head of the College, whereof one, called Howel Penclas, was once a very noted person in this country. The Chapter consisted, and were called, in deeds, by the name and stile of Canons and Prebendaries, but of what number I know not: I suppose they were not above six or eight. I have read in some of the British MSS. that Hwfa ap Cynddelw,  
Lord



Lord of *Llys-Llivon*, was founder of those Canons; secular I believe they were. But I have by me a deed of the advowson of the nomination (*electio Juretis* called) of two of those Canons, annexed to a township, called *Tre Llowarch*, which formerly was the lands of Llowarch ap Brân, Lord of *Menai*; by which I conceive the said Llowarch had at least founded those two Canonries. And the extent of North Wales in the *Villa Tre Llowarch* mentions the same advowson, but calls them Prebendaries, which indeed are not much different from secular Canons." Thus far Mr. Rowlands.—Mr. Morris says he remembers to have read in an extent of North Wales, which he presumes to be that taken 26 Hen. III. that there were two Prebendaries at *Holyhead* annexed to *Tre'r Gof* in the said parish. Their revenue consisted of the tythes of the several parishes of *Holyhead*, *Bodedern*, *Llandrygarn*, and *Bodwrog*; given after the dissolution, to ——— Gwyn, from whom, by right of inheritance, it came to Dr. Gwyn, who about the year 1648 gave the same to Jesus College, in Oxford, for the maintenance of two Fellows, and as many Scholars. So ever since that period, the College nominates the Curates of *Holyhead*, *Bodedern*, *Llandrygarn*, and *Bodwrog*; paying the Curate of *Holyhead* fifty pounds yearly, and forty pounds for serving the other three. *Holyhead*  
church



church stands above the harbour, within an old fortification, built, about A. D. 450, by *Caswallon Llawhir*, or *Caswelaunus longemanus*, a son of Enion Urdd, the son of Cynedda Weledig, who was sent by his father to fight the Irish Picts, who a little before had invaded the island, and, near a strong fort, which the Islanders call *Din Dryvel*, had slain many of the inhabitants at a place called from them to this day *Cerrig y Gwyddyl*, i. e. the Irishmen's stones. About this time Caswallon came, fought, and routed them, and pursued them to *Holyhead*, where their fleet lay: here they fought a second battle, in which Caswallon with his own hand slew Sirigi the Irish commander. Having thus vanquished these lawless depredators of his country, he fortified the place with a wall, which is called at this day *Mŵr Caswallon*, or Caswallon's wall. There is a tradition, that Caswallon in this action fettered his men, in order probably to prevent their placing any hopes of escape by flight, and to oblige them thereby to fight resolutely, to conquer or die. The behaviour of Caswallon in this is something remarkable and uncommon, but was not it seems the only instance among our ancestors; for in the book called *Triodd Ynys Brydain*, or *Triades*, we read thus: “ *Tri hualogion teulu Ynys Prydain, teulu Caswallon Llawhir, a ddoda sant hualen eu meirch ar eu traed*



*traed pob dau o naddynt yn ymladd a Sirigi wyddel yng cerrig y Gwyddyl y Môn. A theulu Rhiwallon mab Urien yn ymladd â'r Saeson. A theulu Belyn o Llyn yn ymladd ac Edwin ym mryn Cenai ab Edwin yn Rhos."* That is, the three fettered tribes or troops of the island of Britain. The tribe of Cafwallon with the long hand, who put their horses fetters upon every two of themselves, when fighting with Sirigi the Irishman, at *Cerrig y Gwyddyl* in *Mona*. The tribe of Rhiwallon, the son of Urien, when fighting against the Saxons. And the tribe of Belyn of *Llyn*, when fighting with Edwin upon Cenai ab Edwin's hills in Rhôs.—But to return. Holyhead harbour being so convenient for the Irish rovers to land in, was, we may suppose, frequently visited by them, when they made inroads into *Anglesey*: and accordingly we read in Powel's History of Wales, that the Irish, in the year 950, when Iago and Jeva jointly usurped the government of North Wales, to the prejudice of their elder brother, Meyric, landed under Albioi, king of *Ireland*, in *Môn*; and having burnt *Holyhead*, spoiled the country of *Llyn*. I have not seen any particular account of any battles having been fought near this place; but that it was a place of some consequence, is evident from the fortifications abovementioned, and also from the remains of another, upon the top of *Holyhead* mountain, called



*Cae'r Twr*, probably the same which Baxter means: it consists of an old stone wall, without mortar, surrounding the summit or apex of the highest hill, and is at this time, in some parts of it, about ten feet high, and of great extent, having a well within it never known to fail in the driest summer. There are several fortifications of the same nature upon the tops of many of our hills, especially those that are near the sea. The other remains of antiquities in this parish, are the great number of chapels of ease, or at least of places of religious worship; for besides the parish church, which was rebuilt, except the chancel, that was repaired in the beginning of this century, in the form in which it now stands, in the reign of Edward III. there was another chapel within the same fortification, called *Eglwys y Bedd*, i. e. the church of the grave; erected over Sirigi, the Irish general, slain by Caswallon, as before mentioned. This church was afterwards endowed with distinct revenues, from those of the collegiate church, as appears by the College leases: it was called in the British manuscripts *Capal Llan y Gwyddyl*: and having been for ages disused, the ruins of it a few years ago were removed, in order to render the way to the church more commodious. In digging, the workmen found a stone coffin, or chest, under an arch in the North side of the chancel, with hu-



man bones of a prodigious size. Here formerly was the shrine of Sirigi, who was canonized by the Irish. It seems to have been held in exceeding great repute for several very wonderful qualities and cures: but according to an old Irish chronicle, it was carried off by some Irish rovers, and deposited in the Cathedral of Christ Church, in Dublin; from whence, being removed with many others, after the reformation, to ——— a place not far from Dublin, where the relicks that could be reserved from that universal destruction are still preserved. This chapel was lately converted into a public school, by Edward Wynn, of *Bodewryd* in this county, L. L. D. who gave by bond, dated Nov. 25, 1748, the sum of six score pounds for the endowment of it, the interest thereof to be paid annually, on the 24th of November, to the Schoolmaster for teaching six poor boys of the town to read and write: and he appointed one John Edwards, a native of Bangor, to be the first master thereof, who resigning in the year 1761, it was given to Lewis Owen, the Surveyor of this port.

THE other chapels are *Capal y Llochwyd*, in *Holyhead* mountain; *Capal y Gorlas*, in the East end of which was a famous spring, called *Ffynon y Gorlas*; also *Capal St. Fraid*, built on an artificial mount or tumulus, by the sea side, on a sandy beach called *Tywyn y Capal*,



and lies on the road to *Chester*, about two miles and a half from *Holyhead*. The Popish legends say, that St. Fraid, a virgin remarkable for her sanctity, sailed from *Ireland* to this place upon a green sod, which, instantly upon her landing, became a firm hillock; on which this chapel was built and dedicated to her memory. There are several churches in Wales dedicated to this Saint, and many of them, as situated on the sea coast, lay claim to the same miracle; particularly one, called *Llan St. Fraid*, in *Cardiganshire*, where one of our British poets seems to believe she actually landed, and speaks of her among other miracles,

“ Da y nofiaſt hyd y nyfi,  
Dull Duw ar dy fantell di ;”

and ſo gives the preference to that *Llan St. Fraid* before ours. However, we may reaſonably ſuppoſe, that if ſhe could come over from *Ireland* to any part of *Wales*, ſhe might with the ſame eaſe viſit any other part of the country in like manner. Laſtly, *Capal Gwyngeneu*, in the hamlet of *Cregeriſt*. In a field belonging to a farm called *Trevigneth*, are ſome rude ſtone monuments, ſuppoſed to have been three *Cromlechs*; they join to each other, though the upper ſtones are now fallen off their ſupporters. Theſe ſtones the  
Welch



Welch call at this time *Llecheu Trevigneth*, i. e. Trevigneth flat stones; and the field they are in *Cae'r Llecheu*. They were never taken notice of till Mr. Aubrey accidentally saw them, from whose papers they were mentioned by the editors of Camden, in their additions to *Anglesey*. There was another Druidical altar or *Cromlech*, within a quarter of a mile of *Holyhead*, called *Coeten Arthur*, or Arthur's quoit; but the upper, or flat stone, is now removed to an adjoining hedge.

THE church of *Holyhead*, especially the porch, has several rude, Gothic ornaments, and on each side of the door two coats of arms, viz. a cheveron between three cornish choughs, differing but a little from those of Llowarch ap Brân, who is said to have founded two canonries here. On a stone in the North isle of the church, on the outside, is an old inscription, which we read thus: "*Sancte Kebie ora pro nobis.*" The inhabitants shewed till lately, a relic of Kebius, viz. the print of his foot on a rock. The soil in this parish is in general rocky, especially towards the Mountain, which is the highest hill in Anglesey, but is interspersed with many fertile spots, which produce plentiful crops of wheat, barley, oats, and hay; insomuch that it is computed they export yearly from this harbour only somewhat more than 40,000 bushels of grain.



grain in barley and oats; and that quantity for these ten years last past. There is a great variety of spar and chrystal in the mountain, but no ore of any kind has been hitherto discovered. In this neighbourhood is a large vein of fuller's earth, both yellow and white; but of no value here, being entirely neglected. There was formerly a salt-house erected on an island in the entrance of Holyhead harbour, called *Ynys Guby*, or *Kebius's* isle: and an act passed the 6th year of Queen Anne's reign to permit rock salt to be used here to strengthen sea water: the place is well situated for the purpose, but for want of proper management the work fell to decay, and has not been since attempted, so that at this time the house is entirely in ruins. At a place called *Borthwen*, two miles from *Holyhead*, the poor people dig at low water a kind of earth, which they dry and burn instead of turf: it is often found full of nuts, branches of trees, and seeds of plants preserved entire, though several yards under the surface, and washed over by the sea. Near this place is *Penrhos*, the seat of Sir John Stanley, Baronet, by his wife Margaret Owen, sole daughter and heiress of Hugh Owen, Esq; son of Robert Owen, Esq; son of John Owen, who married Margaret daughter of — Wynn, of *Bodewrid*, by whom, her brother's male issue failing, the estate of Bodewrid was annexed to



to *Penrhos*. This John Owen was descended from *Hwfa ap Cyndelw*, one of the fifteen tribes of North Wales, who lived in the time of Llewelin ap Jorwerth, Prince of Wales about the year 1173, and bore gules, a cheveron between three lions rampant, for arms.

ABOUT three leagues N. N. W. of *Holyhead*, and half a league from the main land, is a small island, called now *Skerries*, but in ancient British MSS. *Ynys y Moelrhoniad*, from the great number of Seals seen about it. It once belonged to the Bishoprick of *Bangor*, for we read, that in King Hen. VIIIth's time, being unjustly detained from the church, Denys, then Bishop of the see, with a party of soldiers recovered it. Here is a light house, erected first by a private gentleman by patent, but after the expiration of the term allowed in it, an act of Parliament passed in 1730, which subjects every British vessel to a duty of one penny per ton, and every foreign one two-pence. The light from this beacon may be seen eight or ten leagues off, and is of infinite service to navigation: for, prior to its erection, scarce a winter passed here without shipwreck, and always accompanied with loss of lives; for the surge in tempestuous weather beats against it with incredible fury, and often prevents any communication with the lightmen for some weeks. Puffins resort to this place

in



in great plenty : they come in a surprising manner all in a flock in one night, and, when their season arrives, depart in the same manner. Here is also plenty of fish, as whittings, pollocks, &c. and in summer time blackings, or cole-fish, which the lightmen frequently take up with baskets as they pass by.

ABERFRAW is another small town situated at the conflux of the river *Fraw* and the sea, in the S. W. part of the island, 12 miles S. E. of *Holyhead*; it was formerly a considerable place, and now noted for having been the residence of eleven Princes of North Wales. Amarawd I. who kept his court here, began his reign in the year 877, and Lleweline the last was slain in battle at *Muel*, a poor little town in *Breconshire*, in the year 1282, as says one of our own poets in these lines.

*Deccanta mîl, (myn duchain) oedd Duw  
A deuddeg ar hugain;  
Pen las Llewelin poen lain,  
Y Muel cyn term \*Owen.*

WE cannot, at this time, discover any vestiges of the royal palace, nor have we any records whereby to

• Glendowr.

judge



judge with any exactness, of its ancient form and position; but notwithstanding, it is generally supposed to have been in a field adjoining to the town, on the spot where a barn now stands, which probably was built out of its ruins; for the stones in some parts of it appear to have been better wrought than is common in such buildings. Near this place are frequently found in ploughing or digging, the kind of glass rings called by the natives, *Glain Nider*; but in *Glamorganshire*, where they are not less common, *Maen Magl*: they are generally of the size of a small finger ring, but every way much thicker, and not easily broken; are of various colours, as green, red, and white, and others possess a mixture of the three curiously streaked. The vulgar opinion among the Welch is, that they are generated by snakes, as the name betokeneth: but others with more probability suppose, that they were the invention of the Druids, and worn by them around the neck, or elsewhere, as amulets, to prevent or cure certain diseases: various sorts of them may be seen at the *Museum* in *Oxford*.

THE bay of *Aberfraw* is shallow, and even dangerous from the great number of sand banks here raised by the winds; however, it is often frequented in summer by small sloops, that come to take in their lading of corn and butter, which the neighbours sell to a con-

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siderable



fiderable amount. The sand in the bay is found to be good manure, procuring to the farmers who use it plentiful crops of barley and oats. Here are held four fairs in the year, March 7th, Wednesday after Trinity Sunday, October 23, and Dec. 19, all for cattle.

NEWBURGH, in the British histories called *Rhósfair*, is a small market town of *Menai* hundred, pleasantly seated between the rivers of *Braint* and *Cefni*, 6 miles S. E. of *Holyhead*, and 16 S. by W. of *Beaumaris*. This town is governed by a mayor, recorder, and two bailiffs; in whom was formerly vested the election of the Borough member for this county, and the first returns were made ann. 33 Hen. VIII. and the first of Edward VI. but this place being exempted by an act of Parliament passed ann. 2 Edward VI. they have ever after been limited to *Beaumaris*. It has a market on Tuesday, and its fairs are June 22d, August 10th and 21st, Sept. 25th, and Nov. 11th, all for cattle and woollen stuffs. *Newburgh* has nothing remarkable in it, but in its neighbourhood are many monuments of antiquity, and Druidical remains. Near it is one of those monuments called by the Welch *Cromlechs*, whence so named is very uncertain: some derive them from *Crwm* convex, and *Llech* a flat stone, and suppose them to be sepulchral; others, among whom is







deeds, a large tract of ground belonging to it, all which, except one small tenement, is now laid waste by the sea covering it with sand hills. There is also an old deed extant, which shews that *Llanddwyn* was a Prebend of *Bangor*, of good value before the reformation by reason of oblations, it being a relique church. The first Prebendary thereof that I find was a William Vaughan. The following is a copy of the chartule or deed. “ *Pateat universis per præsentes quod nos Gryffinus Young, decretorum Doctor, Archidiaconus de Merionydd, procurator originalis venerabilis viri Domini Wilhelmi Vaughan, Canonici Ecclesiae Bangoriensis, et Præbendarii Ecclesiae præbendalis de Llanddwyn, cum potestate, alium vel alios, procuratorem et procuratores, loco nostri substituendi sufficienter constituti, dilectis nobis in Christo Magistro Evano ap Bleddyn Archidiacono Anglesey, \*Mredydd ap Tudur, et Mredydd ap Kenwric, episcopi Bangoriensis salutem: de vestra circumspeditionis industriam plurimum confidentes, vos conjunctim et divisim, ad percipiendum fructus, oblationes et emolumenta quaecunque ad ecclesiam præbendam de Llanddwyn prædictam pertinent. Juxta vim, formam et effectum procuratorii nobis per eundem Canonicum et Præbendarium in hac parte facti, procuratores substituimus per præsentes et alternatos cum potestate implacitandi, etiam coram judicibus secularibus*

\* He was father of the famous Owen Tudur.

*quibuscunque*





*quibuscunque quendam Jorwerthum Vychan Rectorem de Llanddoget, Afaph. Dioces. se prætendentem prætextu oblationum Ecclesiæ præbendalis prædictæ per scriptum violenter et sacrilegè ablaturum, et quoscunque alios in hac parte culpabiles, prout justum fuerit etiam prosequendi: in cujus rei testimonium sigillum nostrum præsentibus est appensum et datum in castro Llanbadarn, 19 Januarii, Anno Dom. 1404."*

IN the reign of Richard III. one Kyffin, Dean of Bangor, lived at *Llanddwyn*; he erected a chantry in that cathedral, and endowed it with the tythes of *Llanjestin*, and *Llanvibangel Tyn Sylw* in this island, and with a farm called *Bron Haelog* in the county of *Carnarvon*. At the time of the reformation, *William Owen ap Meircel*, the younger son of *Bodeon*, enjoyed it; and is now by lineal descent possessed by Sir *William Owen*, Baronet, and representative in Parliament for the town of *Pembroke*. Dean Kyffin was an active promoter of the Earl of Richmond's interest, in the reign of Richard III. he frequently received messages by sea from his friend Bishop *Morten*, then with the Earl in *Britany*. He was much favoured by Hen. VII. and would in all probability have been promoted by him, but that he was *uxoratus*.

IN the year 1185, Baldwin, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, made a Welch visitation in order to beg the aid  
and



and contributions of that nation to carry on the holy war against the infidels: he prevailed upon *Giraldus*, then Archdeacon of *St. David's*, to accompany him; a man thoroughly acquainted with the manners and dispositions of his countrymen; and from whose journals we have an account of the visitation: he says that it was held in *Anglesey*, because, perhaps, Prince Roderic was then in the island, whose subscription to it was very necessary: from tradition, and memorials of it by names still retained, we have reasons to suppose that they met at an open place, in the parish of *Llandisilio*, called *Cerrig y Borth*. The inhabitants in a grateful remembrance, and to perpetuate the honour of that day, called the place where the Archdeacon stood, *Carreg yr Archjagon*, and where Prince Roderic stood, *Maen Rhoderic*, and on a little eminence his Grace stood, which should have been called *Cadair yr Arch Escob*; but his business being to beg their alms, they upon that account called the place *Kilbeg-le*, which signifies the place of begging. That this was the place of that general visitation of this diocese is evident, for Giraldus makes mention of no other, and he says:—“ *Ubi Junior Oeni filius cum Insulæ totius, et terrarum adjacentium populo devotus nobis occurrit: ubi factò quasi theatro in petrosis rupibus prope littus, prædicante Archiepiscopo; et loci Archidiacono*



*diacono Alexandro, multi ad crucem sunt collecti, &c."* In this sense "*Loci Archidiacono*" might mean the Archdeacon of *Bangor*, because it was the visitation of that Diocese, and "*terrarum adjacentium populo*," the people of the other parts of the Diocese assembling in that place.

ABOUT two miles N. W. of *Porthaethwy* is seated *Treffos*, once a considerable place, if we credit tradition, it having been the residing house of several of the Bishops of *Bangor* at certain times: 'tis reputed the capital of the Bishop's Barony, by virtue of which, 'tis said, he claims a seat in Parliament. *Treffos* became the property of that see while *Ænian* filled it; for in his time was born the first English Prince of Wales, at the castle of *Carnarvon*, on April 25, 1284. The King, in token of remembrance for the office the Prelate did in christening the Prince, bestowed upon him and his successors for ever, the ferries of *Borthwen* and *Cadnant*, the manors of *Bangor*, *Castellmai* and *Garthgogo*, in the county of *Carnarvon*, with the manors of *Cantred* and *Treffos* in the isle of *Anglesey*.

TREGAIAN is a village pleasantly situated on the banks of the river *Cefni*, and is nearly in the center of the island: we take notice of it as being the birth-place of William David ap Howel ap Jorwerth, a very extraordinary



ordinary person, and seldom to be paralleled in history. He was the father of 43 children, 36 of whom were lawfully begotten by three wives, and seven by his two concubines. His eldest son Griffith ap William had a great number of children and grand-children, and was 82 years old when his youngest brother was born; and it is confidently said, that upwards of 300 persons, all descendants of the old man, attended him to his grave: He lived part of the 15th and 16th century, and died in the 105th year of his age.

IN the Northern side of the island and on the rocks near the sea is seated *Llan Ælian* church, dedicated to a Saint of that name, a cotemporary of Kybi, who lived Ann. Dom. 364. The building of it is neat, uniform, and compact, and more modern than most of our churches in Wales; its inside is adorned with paintings of the twelve Apostles tolerably well executed, but now somewhat injured by time and accidents. The neighbours of this place, from a tradition common amongst them, say that they were found in the wreck of a ship lost on this coast, and were originally intended for the use of a church somewhere in *Ireland*. Also in the chancel is a half length picture of St. Ælian, in an attitude very expressive of devotion, and another of St. Paul shaking the viper from off his hand. This church has several tenements be-  
longing



longing to it, which were purchased with the money offered at the shrine of St. Ælian, it being formerly in great repute for many very wonderful cures performed by it, and was much frequented, and considerable donations were then annually given to it; and even now it is not entirely neglected, for the credulous vulgar still resort hither with their mites. This parish is most destitute of wood of any in the island, scarcely a shrub growing in it for many miles together; wherefore a great part of it is called *Moel Ælian*, a name frequently given by the Welch to hills and other places void of shelter.

LLANDYFRYDOG is a small village in *Twrcelin* Hundred, not far distant from *Llan Ælian*, and about three miles from the bay of *Dulas*. This place is noted for an extraordinary incident that happened in the church of it, and which *Giraldus Cambrensis*\* thus relates: “*Est in hac Insulâ Ecclesia sancti TREVEDAUCI Confessoris, in quâ Hugo Comes Salopshuriensis, cum semel unâ cum Comite Cestrensi hanc Insulam vi ingrederetur, canes nocte quâdam posuisset, insanos omnes manè recepit, et ipsemet infra mensem miserabiliter extinctus occubuit.*”

This parish has now nothing remarkable, or worthy of observation in it, save a few stone pillars, which the Welch call *Miney*, are found here and there; such of them as were deeply fixed in the ground, are still

\* P. 193.



erect, but others less rooted have fallen from their pristine direction; they are generally suffered to continue unremoved, unless where a hindrance to the plough: the importance of their British name as now accepted, is very conducive to a supposition that they had been set up for land marks, or perhaps to limit the extent of the jurisdiction of certain chiefs of the Druids, before they were suppressed by the powerful hands of their assailants the Romans. Amongst these pillars is found one of a particular form; for commonly they decrease at the top in shape of a cone; but this on the reverse, is widest within a foot of its top, which inclines downward, and in some degree forms an obtuse angle. 'Tis situated on a farm called *Clorach*, in a field that borders upon the public road leading from *Llannerchmedd* to *Beaumaris*: the inhabitants here call this monument *Lleiderdyfrydog*, from a tradition, common amongst them, of a person robbing the church of *Llandyfrydog* of its books, and that in his way homeward, he suffered a sudden transition of himself into a stone: Divine Providence, they say, would not let such iniquity go unpunished. That the church of this parish was robbed, we have no reason to discredit the tradition; and from the form and situation of the stone, I suppose it was fixed here soon after the commission of the deed, to intimidate posterity from acting alike.

HAR-



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# H A R B O U R S

## I N

# A N G L E S E Y.

**A**MLWCH harbour in the North West part of Anglesey, is a small cove, formed as it were by an excavation of a large rock, the extension of which, as far as navigable, we compute, without measurement, to be 40 perches, and from side to side, which are uncommonly steep, no more than 5 perches. When the tide is in, 'tis here nothing strange to see men fishing while they stand only on the brim of the cavation: in this agreeable pastime they avoid those commotions often concomitants of sea-fishing. The harbour is much frequented by small sloops: here the Liverpool pilot-boats usually moor, to be ready to give assistance to such vessels as are unacquainted with the coast. The village of *Amlwch* is seated near half a mile of the shore; it has a considerable market on Friday, and a fair for cattle on November 12th.



ABOUT two miles N. E. of this place is *Paris* mountain, remarkable for its mines of copper ore, which the workmen find in large quantities, and oftentimes within few yards of the surface of the pit. The number of hands constantly employed here is very great; consequently the prosperity of the miners is prejudicial to the farmers, whose servants are prompted by better wages to leave the plough and take up the pick-axe. The water that is drawn out of the mines is reserved in wooden troughs, sunk to an evenness with the ground; in these they put large bars of iron and pieces of tin, which the water soon corrodes by incrustation of its vitriolic particles, and the whole assemblage, by frequent agitation and change of the water, becomes, in process of time, perfect copper dust: in this state it is commonly sold at 30l. the ton. Contiguous to the mines is a well, noticed awhile, before their discovery, for its vitriolic water; and it is said by lavation of the skin therewith, to cure the itch, and several other cuticular diseases. It appears, by the hydrometer, to be as light as distilled water, notwithstanding its strong impregnation: the taste of it is somewhat subacid, and nauseous even to excess; its influx to the rivers has killed all the fish, wherewith they once did greatly abound, and indeed almost all other aquatics seem to have suffered alike.



CEMLYN is a small harbour, to the West of *Amlwch* five miles, frequented only by sloops, not having sufficient depth of water for large shipping; and moreover, the entrance of the harbour is accessible but with caution and some fore-knowledge of it. Near this place, in the parish of Llanfairynghornwy, is a remarkable quarry of the lanuginous mineral called *Asbestos*, from a supposition of its having the property of resisting fire, but, upon several trials made, it was found to diminish materially at each time. We are told indeed by Pliny, that the ancients wove it unto a cloth, which, whenever stained, or had any ways become dirty, was put into the fire, and when taken out was rendered more clean than ever.

DULAS harbour is in the North East side of *Anglesey*, between the two harbours *Amlwch* and *Redwarf*; it is much frequented by small sloops, which come to take in their freights of corn and butter, the staple commodities of the island. A few years ago, every where on this coast, was taken in their season great plenty of herrings, which contributed very largely to the support of the poor inhabitants, being then their principal food.

MALLTRAETH,



MALLTRAETH, more properly a creek than a harbour, is situated four miles South East of *Aberfraw*. The sea at this place flows a considerable way into the country, joining itself to a river of that name, but is not navigable more than 40 perches inland. About the center of *Malltraeth* marsh, it is not uncommon to find under six yards of sand a perfect sea shore; a sure indication of the sea having once come up so far. As we advance up the river, we find several pits of coal sunk but a few yards deep, by reason of the water filling them after that the workmen have descended such depth, and in so great quantities as may be extracted only with engines and great cost, which conveniencies the proprietors do not possess; nor indeed is it likely, where fuel does abound, that their introduction would be of advantage to them. The quality of the coal is widely different; in some places it is bituminous, and, when exposed to the open air, soon moulders, wherefore they call it run-coal: in others they find the hard stone-coal, the kennel, and a sort of coal that has a resemblance to culm, but differs peculiarly, in that it cakes in burning. •

RED-WARF, or *Traeth Coch* is a considerable harbour five miles to the West of Beaumaris, is much frequented by small shipping on account of the limestone



stone trade, which they carry to almost all the neighbouring countries. The sand in this bay is found to be the best manure of any thing hitherto experienced in the island: the best sort, which is coarse and full of shells, is dug when the tide is out from under the common shore, and carried to heaps without the high-water mark, and afterwards conveyed on horses over all the island. The quarries of mill-stones in this neighbourhood supply nearly all Anglesey and Carnarvonshire with these necessary conveniencies, and for their durity are accounted preferable to any digged from the mines of *Penmon*. Among these stones are found some loose blocks of marble, tending to a brown dusty colour, but here their opacity renders them not less useful than the more transparent ones, for they will readily take a polish, and are accordingly used in chimney-pieces and other devices of the sculptor.



A  
**C A T A L O G U E**  
 OF THE  
**RECTORIES, VICARAGES, AND CHAPELS,**  
 IN THE  
*ISLE* OF *ANGLESEY*;  
 With their DEDICATIONS, SAINTS DAYS, and PATRONS.

✂ Those marked with asterisks are Churches in ruins.

Rect. Vicarag. Chap.	Dedications.	Saints Days.	Patrons:
R. Aberfraw.	St. Beuno.	April 21.	} Prince of Wales.
C.* Llanvar-yn-rhewdryvol.	St. Mary.	Feb. 2.	
V. Llanbadric.	St. Patrick.	March 17.	
R. Llanbeulan.	St. Peulan.		
C. Llechulched.	St. Ulched.	Jan. 6.	} Bishop of Bangor.
C. Talyllyn.	St. Mary.	Feb. 2.	
C. Llanvaillog.	St. Maeloc.	Jan. 30.	
C. Llannerchmedd.	St. Mary.	March 25.	
C. Ceirchiog, or Bettws y Grog.	Holy-Rood.	Sept. 14.	} Ld. Vis. Bulke- ley.
R. Llandegfan.	St. Tudecho.	Dec. 17.	
C. Beaumaris.	St. Mary.	Sept. 8.	} Bishop of Bangor.
R. Llandaisfant.	St. Marcellus, and St. Marcellianus.	Sept. 25.	
C. Llanvair-yn-gornway.	St. Mary.	Aug. 25.	
C. Llanbabo.	St. Pabo post Prydam.	Nov. 9.	
R. Llandyfrydog			



# O F A N G L E S E Y.

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Rect. Vicarag. Chap.	Dedications.	Saints Days.	Patrons.
R. Llandyfrydøg.	St. Tyfrydoc.	Jan. 1.	
C. Llanvihangel-Tre-yr-Bardd.	} St. Michael.	Sept. 29.	
R. Llandyfnan.	St. Dyfnan.	April 23.	
C. Pentraith.	St. Mary.	Sept. 8.	
C. Llanbedar.	St. Peter.	June 29.	Bishop of Bangor.
C. Llanvair-Mathavarn-Itha.	} St. Mary.	Feb. 28.	
R. Llaneugrad.	St. Eugrad.	June 8.	
C. Llanallgo.	St. Galgo.	First Sun. in May.	
R. Llan-Ælian.	St. Ælian.	Jan. 13.	
C. Coed Ana.	St. Anne.		
C. Rhospeirio.	St. Peirio.		
C. Bodewrid.			
R. Llangadwalader.	St. Cadwalader.	April 22.	} Pr. of Wales.
C. Llanveirion.	St. Meirion.		
R. Llangeinwen.	St. Caernwen.	Second Sunday after Michaelmas.	} Earl of Pembroke.
C. Llangafo.	St. Caffo.	Nov. 1.	
R. Llangefni.	St. Cyngar.	Nov. 7.	
C. Tregian.		Nov. 1.	
R. Heneglwys.	St. y Newdion.	Nov. 22.	
C. Trewalchmai.	St. Morhairn.	Nov. 1.	Bishop of Bangor.
V. Llanydan.	St. Aidan.	Sept. 30.	
C. Llanedwen.	St. Edwinia.	Nov. 6.	
C. Llanddiniel Fab.	} St. Daniel.	Sept. 11.	
C. Llanvair y Cwymwd.	} St. Mary.	Feb. 2.	
R. Newborough.	St. Peter.	June 29.	} Pr. of Wales.
	I		V. Holyhead.



Rect. Vicarag. Chap.	Dedications.	Saints Days.	Patrons.
V. Holyhead.	St. Cybi.	Nov. 6.	} Impropriation Jesus College, Oxford.
C. Bodedarn.	St. Edarn.	Jan. 6.	
C. Bodwroe.	St. Jwroe.	June 26.	
C. Llandrygarn.	St. Trygarn.		
V. Penmynydd.	St. Credival.	Nov. 30.	} Bishop of Bangor.
R. Amlwch.	St. Elaeth.		
C. Llanvairlwyvo.	St. Wenllwyvo.		
R. Llangristiolis.	St. Christiolus.	Nov. 3.	
C. Cerrig Ceinwen.	St. Ceinwen.	Oct. 8.	} Lord Boston.
R. Llanvihangel ys Keivioc.	} St. Michael.	Sept. 29.	
C. Llanfinnan.	St. Finanus.	Sept. 14.	
V. Penrhôs.	St. Michael.	Sept. 29.	
C. *Llygwy.	St. Michael.	Sept. 29.	} Ld. Vis. Bulke- ley.
V. Llanddona.	St. Dona.	Nov. 1.	
V. Penmon.	St. Seiriol.	Feb. 1.	} Mr. Hughes.
V. Llanvais.	St. Catharine.	Nov. 25.	
R. Llanjestin.	St. Justinus.	April 13.	} Bishop. of Bangor.
C. Llangoed.	St. Cowrda.	Dec. 15.	
C. Llanvihangel- -Tin-Silew.	} St. Michael.	Dec. 29.	} Bishop. of Bangor.
R. Rhôsgolin.	St. Gwenfaen.	Nov. 5.	
C. Llanvihangel y Traeth.	} St. Michael.	Sept. 29.	
C. Llanvar-yn- Newbull.	} St. Mary.	Feb. 2.	
R. Llanrhyllad.	St. Rhylad.	Sept. 4.	} R. Llanvair-
C. Llanflewini.	St. Flewin.	Nov. 12.	
C. Llanrhwydrus.	St. Rhwydri.	First Sun. in Nov.	



Rect. Vicarag. Chap.	Dedications.	Saints Days.	Patrons.
R. Llanvair-Pwll-Gwimpill.	} St. Mary.	Feb. 2.	Bishop of Bangor.
C. Llandifilio.	St. Tyfilio.	Nov. 8.	
R. Llanvechell.	St. Machutris.	Nov. 15.	
C. Llandogwell.	St. Dogwel.	Nov. 30.	
R. Llanvachreth.	St. Maetreth.	Jan. 1.	
C. Llanynghenedle.	St. Anghenel.	Quinq <sup>ma</sup> Sund.	
C. Llanvigal.	St. Vigilius.	Nov. 1.	
R. Llanvaithly.	St. Maethle.	Dec. 26.	
C. Llanvwroc.	St. Mwroc.	Jan. 6.	
R. Llanfadwrn.	St. Saturnius.	Nov. 29.	
R. Llantrifant.			
C. Llechgwenfarwyth.	} St. Gwenfarnus.	Nov. 7.	
C. Ceidio.	St. Ceidio.	Nov. 18.	
C. Gweredoc.	St. Mary.	Feb. 2.	
C. Llanllibio.	St. Llibio.	Feb. 28.	
R. Trefdraith.	St. Beuno.	April 21.	
C. Llangwyfan.	St. Gwyfan.	June 3.	



OF A N O G L E S T Y

20

Ref. Name Date Address

Ref.	Name	Date	Address
1	John Smith	Jan 1	123 Main St
2	John Smith	Jan 1	123 Main St
3	John Smith	Jan 1	123 Main St
4	John Smith	Jan 1	123 Main St
5	John Smith	Jan 1	123 Main St
6	John Smith	Jan 1	123 Main St
7	John Smith	Jan 1	123 Main St
8	John Smith	Jan 1	123 Main St
9	John Smith	Jan 1	123 Main St
10	John Smith	Jan 1	123 Main St

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M E M O I R S  
O F

OWEN GLENDOWR:

BEING A WELL-COMPILED

HISTORY OF HIS TRANSACTIONS

During the whole W A R.

Originally written by Mr. THOMAS ELLIS,

RECTOR of *Dolgelle*, in MERIONETHSHIRE;

And now faithfully copied out of a Manuscript in the Library of  
JESUS COLLEGE in OXFORD.

To which are added,

NOTES HISTORICAL and DESCRIPTIVE,

Collected by the EDITOR from AUTHENTIC REMAINS.



M. F. M. O. I. R. S.

OWEN CLEVELAND

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

HISTORY OF THE TRANSACTIONS

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# M E M O I R S

O F

## OWEN GLENDOWR.

OWEN GLENDOWR was brought up in the Inns of Court, where he studied until he was Barrister of Law. Then he became servant to King Richard II. his scutiger and esquire of the body he was. He was with King *Richard* in his attendance when he was taken in his return from *Ireland* at the castle of *Flint*, by the forces of *Henry Bullingbrook*, duke of *Lancaster*. *Richard* was deposed, and *Henry* set on the throne in his stead. King *Henry*, who was the fourth of the name, harboured no kindness for *Owen*, on account of his relation to *Richard*, nor was *Owen* satisfied with him that had wronged his master, who was the right undoubted heir of the crown, and had been in possession of it about twenty-two years. The Lord *Gray* of *Ruthin* conceiving himself to be more in favour with King *Henry* than *Owen*,  
made



made bold to affront *Owen*. He neglected to deliver unto him in time, the writ of summons, whereby he was required to wait upon the King with forces in his expedition to the *North* against the *Scots*. Then he disseized *Owen* of certain lands\* he had recovered from him in King *Richard's* time. This highly provoked *Owen*, infomuch, that he made entry by force upon the said lands, while the Lord *Gray* was absent with the King in the *North*. This being told the King, he in his return sent the Lords *Talbot* and *Gray* to reduce *Owen* with part of his forces. And they came so unexpectedly about *Owen's* house, that he had much ado to make his escape into the woods. *Owen* some few days after, notwithstanding the allegiance he and his progenitors had swore unto the kings of *England*, claimed the principality of *Wales*, as heir unto the last Prince of *Wales*: and then upon the eve of *St. Matthew*, A. D. 1400, in the 48th year of his age, being followed with a company of stout, resolute men, he fell upon the town of *Ruthin* whilst they kept their fair, sacked and burned it to the ground. A. D. 1400. After this he returned unto the mountains and fastnesses. The summer following he marched with about

\* The lands which *Reginald Lord Gray*, of *Ruthin*, *Owen's* neighbour, lay claim to, were part of a common lying between the Manors of *Ruthin* and *Glendourdy*. Walf. p. 964.



120 men in arms unto the hills of *Plin-Limnon*, where, for some time, he kept his rendezvous: from thence he did much hurt, sending parties to pillage the country all about. The *Flemings* of *Rhôs Pembroke* and *Cardigan*, whom *Owen* distressed most of all, raised 1500 men and went against him, being full of confidence that they would either kill him or take him. They hemmed him in on all sides at a place called *Mynyddhyddgant*, so that he could not possibly get off without fighting at a great disadvantage. He and his men fought manfully a great while, in their own defence, against them. Finding themselves surrounded and hard put to it, they resolved at length to make their way through or perish in the attempt: so falling on furiously with courage whetted by despair, they put the enemy, after a sharp dispute, to confusion; and they pursued so eagerly their advantage, that they made them give ground, and in the end to fly out-right, leaving two hundred of their men dead on the spot of engagement. This victory rendered *Owen* considerable, and was the means to bring many unto his side, that his number was greatly increased.

A. D. 1402, a blazing star appeared, which flattering bards made to portend all good to *Owen*. This year *Owen* wrought very much hurt unto the Lord

K

Gray



*Gray* and his friends; that the Lord *Gray*, for the King's service and his own security, raised an army and fought with *Owen* upon the banks of the river *Turnwy*, in *Montgomeryshire*: there *Owen* got the victory, and took the Lord *Gray*, who was his prisoner, until such time that he paid 10,000 marks for his ransom. Afterwards, not finding himself and his friends secure from the outrages of *Owen's* men, he thought it his best course to become a suitor unto *Owen* for one of his daughters to wife, which when he had obtained, he and his were suffered to enjoy their estates quietly. *Owen* burnt the house of *Howel Sele*, of *Nanney*, who withstood out for the king, and took him along with him. *Griffith ap Gwyn*, of *Ardudwy*, who came to attempt the rescue of his cousin *Howel*, was beaten and most of his men killed. *Howel* was so disposed of that he was never seen or heard of again by his friends. *Edmund Mortimer*, Earl of *March*, raised an army and came against *Owen*; both armies met at *Pilate* in *Radnorshire*. *Owen* got the day, the Earl being there taken prisoner and some thousands of his men slain. The king for some reasons making no haste to redeem Earl *Mortimer* out of *Owen's* hands, the Earl thought it his best course to submit unto *Owen's* terms, and join with him against the king, hoping



hoping by that means to get the kingdom from *Henry*, unto which he conceived himself to have a better title than he had, as being descended from *Lionel*, Duke of *Clarence*, third son of King *Edw. III.* whereas *Henry* was son but of the fourth son of *John of Gaunt*. Whether Earl *Mortimer* entered into a nearer tye of friendship with *Owen* by taking a daughter of his to wife, as *Thomas Walsingham* relates, is a question in regard to which we have no authority for it in our Welch writers. In the beginning of August, after the great victory at *Pilate*, *Owen* marched with his forces into *Glamorganshire*. There the people submitted generally unto him, and owned him for their Prince. Then he burned the towns of *Cardiff* and *Abergavenny*. About the middle of August, King *Henry* advanced with an army towards *Wales*, but returned without any thing done. *Owen* called a Parliament to be held at *Machynlleth*, unto which his nobles and gentry came and crowned him. *David Gam*, a gentleman of *Brecknockshire*, came hither upon his summons, but with a bad intention to murder *Owen*, for his master King *Henry's* sake and service: but *David's* plot being discovered, he was seized upon and committed to prison, and he would surely have been put to death, had not the greatest upholders of *Owen's* cause inter-



ceded for his life. When *David* was in durance, they rhymed upon him: “*Dafydd gam drugtam, dreigl, ddrymwan fradwr, fradwr Rhisiart frenin,*” &c.

DAVID, being pardoned and set at liberty, went home to his country, but, contrary to his promise of fidelity, vexed exceedingly the friends of *Owen*. *Owen*, hearing this, entered the marches, destroying all before him. He burned *David Gam*’s house, but *David* kept himself out of his reach. *Owen*, calling to one of *David*’s servants spoke thus to him in metre: “*O gweli di w’r coch gam yn ymosfin y girnigwen, diwed ei bod hi tan ytam a nod y glo ar ei ffenn.*” *Jevan ap Eneon* of *Evionyth*, *Robert ap Meredith* of *Kesselgyfarch*, and others of *Caernarvonshire*, sided with *Owen*; but *Jevan*, brother of the said *Meredith ap Hulkan*, of *Glynllivon*, continued faithful unto the king. They kept the town of *Caernarvon*, in which they were blocked up by *Owen*’s men.

A. D. 1403, Sir *Henry Percy*, surnamed *Hotspur*, son to the Earl of *Northumberland*, advanced with an army towards *Shrewsbury*, expecting Earl *Mortimer*, and *Owen Glendower*, with their armies to join with him, as they had promised upon the agreement made between them three. The king with his army met *Hotspur* before the other two had joined him, and gave him



him battle near *Shrewsbury*, on Saint *Magdalen's* Eve, A. D. 1403. After a cruel fight, and great valour shewed on both sides, *Piercy* and most of his men being slain, the king obtained a compleat victory. *Owen* was then with all his strength about *Oswestry*, twelve miles from the place of the fight. He had sent 4000 of his men to the aid of *Piercy*, but went not in person.

A. D. 1404, *Owen* sent *Griffith Young*, L. L. D. his Chancellor, and *John Hanmer*, upon an embassy, in the month of May, unto *Charles VI.* King of *France*, to treat and conclude of a league of amity between him and the said King. The records touching the said treaty and league are extant: the titles and dates of them are thus; “*Traictz de alliance faits enter le Roy Charles VI. et le Prince de Guales.*” “*Tenor liberatum procurat dicti divini nostri Francorum regis, &c.*” The French King's commissioners were *Jaques de Borbon*, Count of *March*, and *John* Bishop of *Claremont*. *Owen's* letters of credence unto his ambassadors were thus dated. “*Dat. apud Dolgelle 10<sup>o</sup> April, 1404, et principatus nostri 4<sup>o</sup> actum et datum Paris. in domo habitationis magnifici viri Ervandi de Corbeya, Militis Cancellarii Franciæ, A. D. 1404. Indicti 12 die 14<sup>o</sup> Julii præsentibus &c. et ego Johannes de Sanctis Beluacens. Diocess. Apost. et imper. autoritate publicus notarius*

et



*et secretarius &c. præsens fui, eaque fieri vidi et audiui ad requestam de consensu D. D. procuratorum huic præsenti publico instrumento &c.*" The league was defensive and offensive against *Henry of Lancaster* (they afforded him no other style in the instrument) and his adherents. *John Trevor*, Bishop of *St. Asaph*, submitted unto *Owen*. This year *Owen* took the castles of *Harlech* and *Aberystwith*. Then he marched into *Monmouthshire*, and met the English at *Mynyddlamsdusy*, who made him to retreat, killing many of his men: but gathering again suddenly his men together, he overtook the English at *Craig y Dorth*, near *Monmouth*, gave them a defeat, and pursued them to the very gates of the town; then he burned and destroyed all before him, towns, villages, castles, forts, and all places of strength.

A. D. 1405, he sent his eldest son *Griffith* with an army into *Brecknockshire*, and there, at *Mynyth-Pwllmelyn*, after a hot fight, *Griffith* was overpowered and taken prisoner by the king's men, and about 1500 of his men were killed and taken. Among the dead bodies was found one much like unto *Owen*, whom they supposed, and gave out, to be *Owen* that was slain; but, upon further enquiry, it was found it was not *Owen*, but his brother *Tudor*, who very much resembled him, and was often



taken for him, being hardly distinguished asunder, only *Owen* had a little wart above one of his eyebrows, which *Tudor* had not. The report of *Owen's* overthrow and death disheartened the *Welch* exceedingly; infomuch that the people of *Glamorgan* submitted unto the king, save some few, who went unto *Owen*, when they understood he was alive. A conspiracy of the Earl of *Northumberland* and others against the king being discovered, the Earl fled into *Scotland*. Those that were taken and found guilty of this treason, were put to death; among whom was one Sir *John Griffith*, Knight. The king took all the forts and castles belonging unto the earl, and then marched towards *Wales* with an army of 37000 men. But this expedition succeeded not well; for the king, after he had entered the country, lost fifty of his waggons, wherein his provision, treasure, &c. were carried, and was necessitated to return without performing any notable exploit. The French King sent forces\* over to *Owen*, who landed at *Milford*, and from thence they marched into the country and took *Caermarthen*.

A. D. 1406, the Earl of *Northumberland* and the Lord *Bardolf* came into *Wales*, to *Owen*, for protec-

\* The French forces consisted of a hundred and forty sail, and 12000 men, and were commanded by *Marshal de Montmorency*. Walf. p. 374.  
tion;



tion; he received and entertained them kindly. The men of *Ystradtowi* revolted unto the king. The French King sent more forces to aid *Owen*†. *Owen* granted a pardon to one *John ap Howel ap Jevan Coch*. The witnesses to it are *Griffith* his eldest son, *Meredith* his second son, Dr. *Griffith Young*, and *Rbys ap Tudor*, and *Gwillim ap —*, anno principatus nostri 6, dat. apud *Cefn-Llanvair* 10 die Jan. p. ipsum Principem. On the seal affixed to it, was the picture of *Owen* sitting in a chair of state, holding a scepter in his right hand, and a globe in his left, and by it on his side were three lions, two and one; on the other side he sat on horseback, &c.

A. D. 1407, Prince *Henry* came against the castles of *Aberystwith*, and took it upon articles; but *Owen* took it again by stratagem soon after.

A. D. 1408, the Earl of *Northumberland*, Lord *Bardolf*, and the Bishop of *St. Asaph*, perceiving *Owen* to be in a declining condition, left him, and returned into *England*: *Northumberland* and *Bardolf* were condemned, and executed for treason; but the Bishop because of his holy orders was pardoned. The English took the castles of *Aberystwith* and *Harlech* from *Owen*.

† Thirty ships, according to Walsingham.



A. D. 1409, *Owen* sent a party into *Shropshire*, who did there much harm. Two of his best captains, *Rees Ddu* and *Philpot Scudamour*, were then taken there, and sent to *London*, where they were executed.

After the year 1411, *Owen* was so weakened, his men deserting him, and returning to the king's obedience, that he was forced often to change his quarters and keep less in fight.

A. D. 1415, death put a period to *Owen's* life and misery upon the Eve of *St. Matthew*.

Some say he died at his daughter *Scudamour's*, others at his daughter *Monington's* house. They had both harboured him in his forlorn condition. They say that he was fain to go up and down, disguised in a shepherd's habit, to his daughter and other friends' houses. The history printed by *Caxton*, 1520, says, That *Owen's* war endured twelve years largely. His policy cannot be commended, in that he did not come in person to *Hotspur* and join his whole power. His cruelty made the people to hate him, and his covetousness made his soldiers by degrees to forsake him. His valour and conduct were excellent.

WHERE *Owen* was buried cannot now be ascertained. But my countrymen, whether from tradition or conjecture I know not, suppose a grave under the great  
L window,



window, in the South isle wall of *Bangor* cathedral, to be his place of interment. This mural monument is singular, and much noticed. It lies within the wall, having a hollow arch over it, and a short buttress to support it. The stone, which is of the grit kind, has no inscription on it, or any adornment besides a large ill-formed cross. Humphreys, a late Bishop of *Bangor*, and a great antiquary, did not credit this report, but firmly believed, from a passage in Giraldus's Itinerary, that it was the Mausoleum of *Owen Gwynedd*, Prince of North Wales, A. D. 1138.

A GENE-



A  
GENEALOGICAL ACCOUNT  
OF

OWEN GLENDOWR;

COPIED OUT OF A BOOK OF PEDIGREES,

COLLECTED BY

Mr. THOMAS ELLIS, B. D.

AND

FELLOW of JESUS COLLEGE, OXFORD.

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PRINCE *Llewelin ap Griffith*=  
slain at *Buelt*, A. D. 1282.

*Catharine=Philip ap Ivor*  
of *Iscoed*, *Cardiganshire*.

*Elenor Goch*=  
D. Heirefs.

*Thomas ap Llewelin ap Owen*.

*Elena* mother of *Owen Glendowr*; *Elenor* wife, first,  
of *William ap Griffith ap Guenwynwyn*, Lord of *Mouth-*  
*wy*, after him, of *Sir Tudor ap Grono*, Knt. by whom  
she had *Meredith*, father of *Sir Owen Tudor*, Knt.  
father of *Edmund* Earl of *Richmond*, father of King  
*Hen. VII.*



*Griffith ap Madoc*, Lord of *Dinas Brán*, he died A. D. 1270.

*Madoc V<sup>n</sup>* = *Llewelin Griffith ap Madoc*, a captain under Prince *Llewelin ap Griffith*. *Owen* a priest. = *Griffith*, *Llewelin*, both perished in their minority, and their guardian Earl *Warren* had given him their Lordships of *Yale Bromfield*, &c. by the king x<sup>o</sup>. Edw. I.

*Griffith V<sup>n</sup>* y *Barwngwyn* of *Glendoverdwy*. *Margaret* D. of *Rees Michill*, son of *Rees Grug*.

*Madoc V<sup>n</sup>* = *Griffith* of *Rushalt*, he married, July A. D. 1304, *Elizabeth* daughter of *John* Lord *Strange*. *Griffith V<sup>n</sup>* of *Glendourdw*y and *Kynllaeth*. *Elenor*, D. coheir of *Thomas ap Llewelin*, ap *Owen*, ap *Griffith*, ap Lord *Rees* by *Elenor Goch*, daughter of *Catharine*, daughter of Prince *Llewelin ap Griffith*.

*Tudor. Lowri. Morvydd*, wife *Rich. Croft*, wife of *David ap Edmund Gam*.

OWEN GLENDOWR = born May 28, A. D. 1354, some say 1349.

*Marg.* D. of *Sir David Hanmer* Knt. judge of the Common Pleas. =

= *Isabel*, wife of *Adam ap Forw<sup>th</sup>* =  
= *Ddu*. =

*Griffith*



*Griffith* and five sons more, who came all to be men and perished, in their father's war, without issue.

=*Eliz.* wife of Sir *John Scudamore* of *Kenchurch* Knt. by whom she had Sir *John Scudamore*. =

=*Jane* wife of the Lord *Gray* of *Ruthin* = *Jonet* wife of *John Croft*, of *Croft Castle*.  
*Marg.* wife of — *Monington* of *Herefordshire*.

OWEN GLENDOWR had base issue, *Jevan*, 1. daughter, married to the heir of *Gwernen*; 2. *Mywanwy* wife of *Llewelin ap Adda* of *Trevor*; 3. *Gwenllian* wife of *Sir Phillip ap Rees* of *St. Harmon* in *Radnorshire*: of her *Lewis Glyncosbi* bard Temp. Hen. VIII. writeth:

“ Ei thâd oeth dwyfog cadarn,  
A holl Gymru a fu un ei farn,” &c.

Sir *John Scudamore* Knt. son of *Eliz. Glendowr*.  
*Joan* daughter of *John Parry* of *Posen Herefordshire*.  
*James Scudamore*, he, by his first wife daughter of *Sir Eustace Whitney*, Knt. had issue *Jonet*, and by his second wife *Elenor* daughter of *Griffith ap Nicolas*, upon whose issue male *Kenchurch* was settled, he had *Thomas Scudamore*, who married *Margaret* daughter  
of



of *Morgan Jenkin Phillip of Pencoed*, temp. Ed. IV.

= *Jonet Scudamore* daughter of *James*. =

= *Llewelin ap Griffith V<sup>n</sup>* =

= *Morgan*. =

*Lewis*. = *Angharad*, daughter of *Gwilim ap Llewelin*

*V<sup>n</sup>* = *Joan*. = *David ap Howel Moethé*. *John, Lewis, Rees*.

*Jean, Lewis, Morgan*, and these her three sons, with *Tho. Gilbert, John Abrell, Robert Whitney*, and *James Chaloner* alias *Glendowr*, made entry upon *Kenchurch*, for which fact, they were all indicted at the assizes kept at *Hereford* A. D. 1500.

A. 11. *Hen. VI.* The Earl of *Somerset*, prisoner in *France*, sheweth how the king gave, Nov. 8. 2<sup>o</sup> *Hen. IV.* to *John* Earl of *Somerset* his father in fee, all the Manors and Hereditaments of *Owen Glendowr* in *North Wales*, that *John Scudamore Knt.* and *Alice* his wife daughter and heir of the said *Owen*, by colour of an old entail, brought their formdon for the Manor of *Glendwrde* and *Kenlleth*; he therefore prayeth, that they and all others may be forebarred to bring any action for any the Hereditaments aforesaid, otherwise than their petition in the King's Bench, to be returnable; the which was granted.

It



IT is enacted that the statute made 4 *Hen.* IV. that no Englishmen should marry with any of the family of *Owen Glendowr*, should be kept; and that all Letters Patent made to the contrary should be void.\*

WE read among the grievances of the Welch, which were delivered unto *John Peckham*, Archbishop of *Canterbury*, how that *Llewelin ap Griffith ap Madoc* complaineth, that the King granted certain letters unto a bastard, called *Griffith Vaughn* of *Kynllaeth*, to law with him for his whole Lordships and Possessions.

QUERE, Whether this *Griffith Vaughn* were not son of *Griffith* Lord of *Dinas Brân*, and half brother, by the father, unto the said *Llewelin*.

GRIFFITH and *Llewelin* sons of *Madoc* eldest son of *Griffith* Lord of *Dinas Brân* were in ward to *John de Warren* Earl of *Surry*, thro' whose practice, as is supposed, they were both drowned, under *Holt* Bridge, in their minority. Their estate being vested in the King was given to the said Earl *Warren*, their guardian, by Patent bearing date, at *Rutland*, 7 Oct. 10<sup>o</sup> Edw. I.

GRIFFITH third son of *Griffith* Lord of *Dinas Brân*, and Lord of *Glandordwy* gave *Bodidris* in *Yale* unto the

\* This was had out of the papers kept in the house of *Kenchurch*.



church of *St. Asaph*, one *Eneon* being then Bishop, by charter bearing date v. J. Feb. 1278. *Coch Asaph*. 80. a.

“ Mîl a phedwar cant dim mwy cof ydiw,  
Cyfodiad Glyndyfrdwy.

A phymtheg praf ddissaffrwy ;

Bu Owen hên, heb ddim howy.

Or llyd ydocthem er llediaeth ir byd ;

Llady pawb ywn dylayth ;

Ac er llydy gwedi 'n gwaith.

O Duw nêl y dawn eilwaeth.”

Rich. Davies Esgob Dewi.

WHAT follows was copied out of a small paper book very much decayed, and out of some loose sheets.

A. D. 1406.

AT *Beaumaris*, the next day before the feast of *St. Martin* the Bishop, being the 11th of Nov. in the 8th year of King *Henry IV.* before *Thomas Toucul*, *Phillip de Manwaring*, *Robert Paris* the younger, commissioners, by virtue of a commission from Prince *Henry* son and heir apparent of the said — Prince of *Wales*, Duke of *Acquitain*, Earl of *Cornwall*, and Earl of *Chester* ; or any two of them directed—were indicted presented  
and



and fined the several persons and inhabitants of the said county of Anglesey whose names are here underwritten; being in arms and rebellion with *Owen Glyndyfrdwi*.

N. B. Many of them being persons of ordinary condition, to write out their names is of little or no use.

*In Cwmwd Llivon.*

Men amerced, number 411.

Amercements sum total - - 100*l.* 18*s.* 8*d.*

AMONGST them of the clergy were *Kenrick Offeiriad*, *Madoc Offeiriad*, *David ap Evan ap Tudor Lloyd Offeiriad*, *David Offeiriad*.

*Menai.*

Men amerced, number 308.

Amercements sum total - - 65*l.* 10*s.* 8*d.*

CLERGY—*David* Vicar of *Llanidan*, *David ap Evan Goch* Rector of *Rossaur*, *Hwlkin ap David Offeiriad*, *Gronw* Rector of *Seyviog*, *Howel Gloff* Parson of *Rhoscolin*, *Griffith ap Howel* Parson of *Llangefni*, *Decius ap Evan ap David Offeiriad*.

M

*Talybolion.*



*Talybolion.*

Men amerced, number 399.

Amercements sum total - - 123*l.* 16*s.* 4*d.*

CLERGY.—Gwyn Parson of *Llanvair ynghornwy*, *Jorwerth ap Madoc Offeiriad*, *David Offeiriad ap Leiky*, *Evan ap Griffith Offeiriad*, *Howel* Vicar of *Llanbadric*, *Bedin* Parson of *Llanbabo*, *Jorwerth* Parson of *Llantrisant*, *David* Parson of *Llanvachreth*, *Morris* Parson of *Llanvaithly*, *Madoc ap Ithel* Parson of *Llanvwrog*, *Evan ap Owen Offeiriad*.

*Twrkelin.*

Men amerced, number 279.

Amercements sum total - - 83*l.* 5*s.* 8*d.*

CLERGY.—*Tudor* Vicar of *Penrhos*, *Llewelin* Vicar of *Amlwch*, *David Goch Offeiriad*.

*Tyndaethwy.*

Men amerced, number 389.

Amercements sum total - - 79*l.* 19*s.* 8*d.*

CLERGY.—*Evan*, *Offeiriad*, *ap Ednyfed ap Howel*, *Morris ap Evan Offeiriad*, *Griffith Offeiriad* of *Pwll-gwimbill*, *Engham ap Jorwerth Offeiriad*.

*Malltraeth.*



*Malltraeth.*

Men amerced, number 326.

Amercements sum total       -       -       83*l.* 16*s.* 0*d.*

CLERGY—*Griffith Offeiriad, Tudor ap Madoc Offeiriad, Jevan Offeiriad, Rhees ap David Ddu* Rector of *Penmynydd*.

\* \* \* The persons undernamed were men of note that were outlawed for that rebellion.

*Owen de Glendyrddwi.*

*Henricus Piercy comes Northumb.*

*Hen. Piercy filius ejusdem comitis.*

*Tho. Piercy comes Wigmore.*

*Tho. Dominus de Bardolf.*

*Wm. Lasingly.*

*John Sculty.*

*John de Monigton.*

*Lwelinus Biford, vocatus Episc. Bangoriensis.*

*Mattheus Prior de Berthkelert.*

*Lwelinus ap Rees Clericus et Prebendarius in ecclesia de  
Caer-Gybi.*

*Wm. Jenkin ap Wm. Rector ecclesiæ de Llanddyfnab.*

*Jevan ap Blethyn ap Gronow clericus, qui se vocat Archidiaconum Angleseæ.*



P O E M  
IN PRAISE OF  
OWEN GLENDOWR,  
WRITTEN BY HIS POET LAUREAT  
GRUFFYTH LLWYD,  
A. D. M.CCCC.

ERYR digrif afrifid  
OWAIN, helm gain, hael am gêd,  
Gore wirfab, (gair or orfod,)  
Gruffudd Vychan glân ei glôd;  
Mur *Glyn* meistir rhaddlyn rhwydd  
Dyfrdwy fawr, dwfr diferydd.  
Llafar ymanos noswaith  
Oeddwn wrth gyfedd medd maith,  
Fynghrair ith aml gell weriaw  
Ith lys, lle cawn win o'th law.

A TRANSLATION.

THOU delightful eagle *Owain*, with thy bright shining helmet—  
generous in bestowing riches—thou art the brave and ever conquer-  
ing son of *Gruffydd Tychan* of noble renown—thou art the bulwark—the  
graceful and liberal possessor of the vale of *Dyfrdwy* a great and rapid  
stream: On a night, sometime ago, we were jovial together quaffing bum-  
pers of Mead, I was conjured to visit thee often and resort to thy royal  
palace, where I used to drink wine out of thine hand; by drinking mead I

Medd



Medd fynny mwy oedd f' anfoes  
 A gwaeth dros fy maeith fy moes ;  
 Ner mowlair naw ryw milwr  
 Nag, ar fynad arnad w'r.  
 Yr awr ir aithofst ar wyth,  
 I *Brydain* darpar adwyth,  
 Agos i hiraeth gaeth gâd  
 Am dwyn i farow am danad !  
 Nid aith dy gôf drosof draw  
 (Aur balad) awr heb wylaw !  
 Dagrau dros y grudd dygrych  
 Dyfry glaw fal dwfr ai gwlych ;  
 Pan oedd drymhaf fy'n rhafael  
 Am danad mab y tad hael,  
 Clywais o ben rhyw gennad  
 (Cei râs Duw, cowir yftad !)  
 Cael yn yr aer calon rwydd,  
 O honod f'awr glod f' Arglwydd !

became disrespectful, and my behaviour suited not my breeding. Thou illustrious Lord, that art equal to nine heroes, permit me to say *nay* to thy departure, for in the hour thou partest with me, preparing calamities to Britain; longing (in a dreadful conflict) almost brought me to my grave upon thy account. The remembrance of thee, thou golden beam, never passed over me without weeping; my tears ran down my wrinkled cheeks, and watered my face like showers of rain, when my sorrows were at the height, thou son of a generous father. I heard from the mouth of a messenger, (for thou shalt ever have the grace of God and thy estate entire) that thou my most illustrious Lord hadst in battle a generous heart, and

Cefaiſt



Cefaiſt rampant yn d'antur  
*Uthur Bendragon* goſion gur.  
 Pen ddialawdd gawdd goddef  
 Ei frawd, a'i rwyſg, a'i trwydyr ef.  
 Hwyliaſt ſiwrnleaiſt helynt,  
*Owen ab Urien* gain gynt,  
 Pen oedd fuan ymwannwr,  
 Y marchog duog ôr dwr :  
 Gwr a ſi warth ymguraw,  
 A phen draig y ffynon draw ;  
 Gwyr a fuant llwyddiant llu,  
 Gwyr ddewrnerth gwewyr ddyrnu.  
 Tithau *Owain* taith ewybr  
 Taer i gwnaet grafn, a llafn llwybr.  
 Brawd unweithret ith edir  
 Barwn hoff, mab Urien hîr.  
 Pan oedd drymaf du lafur  
 Draw, yn ymwriw ar mur,

haſt found an omen in thine enterpriſes like *Uther Bendragon* renowned in  
 battles, when he revenged (what would have been indignant to bear with)  
 his brother's grandeur and battles. Thou haſt failed and journied in the  
 management of thy affairs like *Owain ap Urien* in times of yore, when he  
 briskly encountered the black knight of the water—————  
 and the head dragon of yonder fountain, heroes that were leaders of armies,  
 men of courage and intrepidity fighting with ſpears. And thou *Owain* im-  
 petuous in the onſet didſt force thy way with thy truſty ſword. Thou ſhalt  
 be eſteemed by thine actions, a brother to the ſon of comely *Urien*, my  
 agreeable Baron. When thy toils preſſed heaviest upon thee in beſieging



Torres dy onnen gennyd  
 Torion grair, taer yn i gryd;  
 Deur flwg dur oedd ei phen,  
 Dors garw yn dair yfgyren.  
 Gwelodd pawb draw dy law yn lân,  
 Gwiw fawldaith, gwaew gafaeldân  
 Drylliaist deliaist or dalwrn  
 Dy ddart hyd ymron dy ddwrn,  
 O nerth ac arial calon  
 A brauch ac yfswydd a bron,  
 Peraist fynaf o'th lafur  
 Byst melt rhwng y dellt a'r dur.  
 Gyrraist yno gwrs doniog  
 Y llu gyriad ychen llôg.  
 Bob ddaw bob dri rhi rhyfawr  
 Ar draf oll o'r dyrfa fawr.  
 Hyd ddyd brawd medd dy wawdydd,  
 Hanwyd o feilch hynod fydd.

yonder walls, thy ashen spear terrible in battle, in the strong attack its head was steel, by a severe blow broke in pieces; every one saw thy hand free from the fiery lance, which was much to thy praise. Thou didst break thy spear on the spot, and didst grasp it close in thy hand, and by the intrepidity of thine heart, the strength of thy arm, shoulder and breast, caused splinters and flashes of lightning to sparkle from the steel. There the armies were driven before you by twos, and threes, and great multitudes—nay all the field in prodigious numbers. To the day of judgment, says thy bard, thou, that art descended from illustrious ancestors, shalt be immortal. Thou that art a wise and able warrior, equal to a two-

Dyfn



Dyfn glew dau finiog lain  
 Hel brwydur dy hwyli *Brydain*,  
 Wrth dorri brisg ith wisg wen  
 Ath ruthur ir maes a'th rethren.  
 Clowsam ddinam ddaioni  
 Hort teg gan herod i ti;  
 Ath hyrddwaew rhudd cythrudd cant,  
 A theg enw ath digoniant.  
 Iachwyd diarfwyd ddurfamp  
 A chrie i Gymro y gamp;  
 A gwawr drift gwedir gwir dro  
 Brydnawn, am *Brydain* yno;  
 A'r gair i Gymru hy hwyl  
 Wrth archoll brwydr oth orchwyl,  
 A'r gwiw rwyfsg a'r gorefcyn  
 A'r glôd i'r marchog o'r Glyn.

Gruffyth Llwyd ap Daf. ap Einion  
 a'i cant A. D. 1400.

edged sword, steer the ships to Britain; thou art clad in garments as white  
 as flakes of driven snow, and thy onset in the field of battle is terrible.  
 We have heard, by a messenger, of thy gallant behaviour, that thou didst  
 with thy sharp piercing lance, strike terror and amazement into hundreds,  
 and likewise of thy glorious name and valour. Thou art secure and un-  
 daunted like steel, and every excellency belongs to the *Cambrian*. There  
 Britain put on a sorrowful countenance after the terrible battle fought at  
 noon; thy fame sailed swiftly to Wales from the wounds of battle and your  
 successful toils. May due authority, success and praise, attend the Knight  
 of *Glyn*!

F I N I S.





